



## APARTHEID

Rugby: how South Africa went wrong

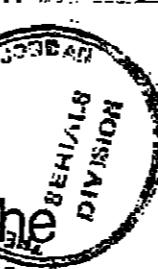
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## FASHION

Watching the other woman

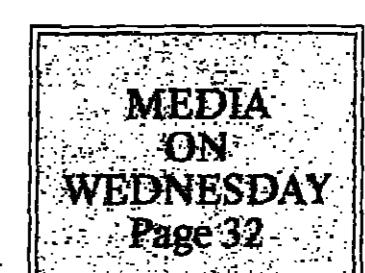
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# THE TIMES



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45p

## Major goes face to face with Tory rebels over Maastricht

BY PHILIP WEBSTER  
AND NICHOLAS WOOD

JOHN Major has embarked on a make-or-break attempt to save his leadership by appealing personally to Conservative MPs to support his strategy for ratifying the Maastricht treaty.

With senior Tory MPs openly acknowledging that Mr Major's future depends on the passage of the treaty legislation, the prime minister last night began a series of face-to-face talks with backbenchers to convince them of the economic benefits of Maastricht and to win over potential rebels. He also asked to be given the opportunity of addressing all Tory MPs at a meeting tomorrow night.

He will leave the 1922 committee in no doubt of his determination to see the ratification bill through and to prevent what yesterday he called the folly of Britain losing its influence in Europe. Michael Heseltine, the president of the board of trade, began seeing the diehard opponents, and other ministers

■ After a number of bruising days, the prime minister has decided to confront the doubters in his party individually. He has also asked to address all Tory MPs at a meeting tomorrow night

week's debate has not been ruled out. Although Mr Major would face accusations of an almighty U-turn, it is an outcome that would be most Tory MPs. It would also reassure many on the Labour side, who are worried that if they oppose the government next week they might compromise their pro-Maastricht credentials.

Mr Major's gamble comes in the face of internal party calculations, which suggest that he could be defeated next week. Up to 40 Tory MPs have indicated that they will vote against Mr Major in any overt trial of strength over Maastricht triggered by a substantive motion.

It is a risk that he may have calculated will pay off because of the dilemma facing the right of the party. They see Kenneth Clarke, the ardent pro-European home secretary, as the most likely beneficiary of Mr Major's downfall. One right-wing minister said: "Our aim must be to save the prime minister from the people around him who are out of touch with the party. Ken Clarke cannot lose either his views prevail or the prime minister goes."

Mr Major and his colleagues will spend the next two days trying to pick off the rebels before deciding which route to take tomorrow. Mr Major's preference remains to back the principles of Maastricht in an unanimous attempt to defeat the rebels. But many ministers, some of them close to him, still doubt that he can win back sufficient support.

Mr Major knows that as few as 31 Tory defectors could seal his fate. However, he will be assisted today when the Danish government sets out its plans for reversing its voters' rejection of the Maastricht treaty. The government proposes a series of protocols enabling Denmark to opt out of the single currency, defence and citizenship aspects of the treaty. The disclosure of the plan will help counter the argument of Labour and the Eurosceptics that British ratification should not proceed until the Danish position is known.

The prime minister began his crusade to woo the party rebels after Commons question time yesterday. He called about ten MPs, some wavering

and some supporters, to his room at the Commons for the first of what will become regular consultations over the months ahead.

The first batch included Angela Browning, John Greenway, David Evans, Graham Riddell, Nigel Evans, Keith Manz and Eric Pickles. The group, which included several members who joined Parliament for the first time in April, represented a spectrum of views about Europe. Mr Major was reported afterwards to have emphasised the economic case for Maastricht.

The threatened civil war in the Conservative party came closer yesterday as the rival groups attacked each other in public. In early morning broadcasts Sir George Gardiner, chairman of the right-wing '92 Group, urged the prime minister to back off and stop "bullying the party with these rather stupid and meaningless threats of a general election".

Angry pro-Europeans, some of whom were members of the same group, retaliated. One fellow member of the group accused Sir George of setting himself up as a power-broker to determine government policy.

From the left Hugh Dykes, MP for Harrow East, said the vast majority of backbenchers were "sick and tired of a vociferous minority of

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Sir George Gardiner, page 2  
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and Peter Riddell, page 2  
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To fight or not to fight: a smiling John Major shows no sign of strain in Downing Street yesterday

**DTI civil servants shifted after coal debacle**

BY PETER RIDDELL  
POLITICAL EDITOR

SENIOR civil servants in the department of trade and industry have, in a virtually unprecedented manner, been held responsible for the government's debacle last week over pit closures, while DTI ministers have stayed in place.

Robert Priddle, the deputy secretary in charge of energy policy including the coal industry, has suddenly been shifted to a new post in the DTI. The official explanation is that, since the government has committed itself to examine afresh the future of the coal industry, it makes sense not to have people at the top who were involved in the development of the previous policy, so that they are not re-examining their own navel.

In addition, a special new review team has been set up to carry out the review of coal policy, separate from the existing division dealing with the industry. So the key officials dealing with the review of coal policy during the next three months will be different from those involved in the discussions leading up to the announcement of the closures two weeks ago, and the subsequent climbdown.

Civil servants are almost never held responsible, or shifted, as a result of a failure of policy. There have, for example, been no changes in the Treasury or the Bank of England following sterling's withdrawal from the exchange rate mechanism on September 16.

The convention has been that ministers are held responsible for policy mistakes, but there have been no moves to shift either Michael Heseltine, president of the board of trade, or Tim Eggar, the energy minister.

Subsidy rejected, page 9

## Lawyer's granny defends the beach that never was

JUST A LINE FROM BLACKPOOL



FROM TOM WALKER IN LUXEMBOURG

QUESTION: When is a beach not a beach? Answer: When it is at Blackpool and the British government says it is not. Britain is in the Euro-dock to explain why bathers had to brave dog excrement on the shore and raw sewage in the water off a resort made famous in countless postcards like that above.

Accelerating falls in manufacturing orders and output were recorded by the CBI's quarterly industrial trends survey during the past four months, after an improving picture earlier in the year.

Describing the state of manufacturing industry as very depressed, Sir David Lees, the CBI's economic situation committee chairman, called for a further cut in interest rates. The government must "provide a coherent explanation of its economic strategy, now that the pound has been withdrawn from the exchange-rate mechanism," he added.

According to John Collins, for the British government,

Britain, before 1987, recognised as bathing beaches under EC law only stretches of water where more than 500 people were in the sea at once or where 1,500 bathers per mile were congregated.

Mr Collins described "actual surveillance" of supposedly popular British beaches that showed many were being used by fewer than 100 bathers.

In his tireless efforts to delineate when a beach is not a beach, he added that Britain also had a "grey area", between 750 and 1,500 bathers per mile, where local councils and water authorities could decide if they were bathing areas in EC terms.

Through these pre-1987 figures, the government deftly managed to whittle down the number of bathing areas in Britain subject to EC rules on water quality to 27. Hand-

ily, this meant there were no bathing areas at all in Scotland and Northern Ireland. And, since Blackpool was not among the 27, there was nothing wrong at the time with raw sewage being pumped into the sea there.

Xavier Lewis, counsel for Whitehall, locked in a row with the European Commission over the water standards off the Golden Mile, the beach before 1987, was not in fact a bathing area.

In reply, a puzzled lawyer for the Commission asked the European Court of Justice in Luxembourg yesterday why his grandmother and millions of others had happily bathed at Blackpool since the turn of the century.

Through these pre-1987 figures, the government deftly managed to whittle down the number of bathing areas in Britain subject to EC rules on water quality to 27. Hand-

**Orkney enquiry blames care staff**

BY RAY CLANCY

SOCIAL workers who removed nine children aged between eight and 15 from their homes in Orkney in a dawn raid last year were so determined to find evidence of ritual sex abuse that they failed to think before acting, according to a judicial enquiry published yesterday.

The result of an eight-month investigation by Scottish High Court Judge Lord Clyde is highly critical of the role played by care workers and police who allowed their thinking to be "coloured by undefined suspicions".

Ian Lang, the Scottish secretary, told the Commons that he was "minded to accept the great majority" of the 194 recommendations in the report, and promised extra resources for social work training.

The children were taken from their homes, flown to the mainland, and sent home five weeks later. No charges were brought over allegations of ritual sex sessions between children and adults in a quarry on the island. All four sets of parents denied any wrongdoing when they gave evidence at the enquiry.

Last night the four families said through their lawyer that they intend to seek substantial damages. They described the report as a complete vindication of their position and demanded an apology for the whole island. Orkney island councillors said they were taken aback by the severity of the criticisms.

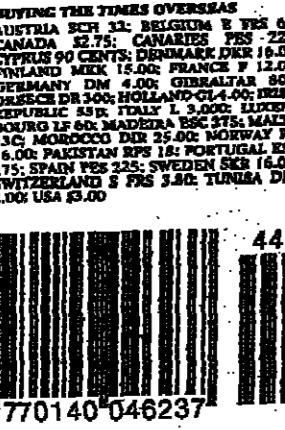
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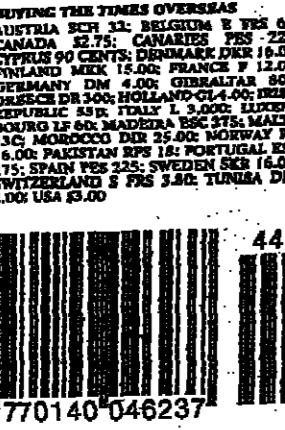
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SINGAPORE AIRLINES

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Export boost, page 21

## Critics of Major lack an alternative candidate

THE wily sages may shake their heads at the absurdity of the rumours and the title-tattle, but it is the speculation time in the bars and corridors of Westminster. Is John Major bluffing about an election? Is he losing his touch? Is his leadership in peril?

Mr Major did not behave like a Tory leader on the way out in the Commons yesterday. The odds are still that the Maastricht bill will be ratified by parliament and that Mr Major will lead his party into the next election. However, MPs have begun to consider the possibility that he might not. Under party rules, there cannot be a formal challenge until the next parliamentary session starts, in 12 months time, but if the bill failed and Mr Major resigned, who would be in the running?

Winners of leadership contests are those who look right at the time, rather than early

RIDDELL  
ON POLITICS



Heseltine never wise to write him off



Thatcher: no longer available to fight

frontrunners. Trying to identify supporters of a candidate on a left-to-right spectrum is useless. More important is whether a career is advancing or declining. In the Tories' 1990 contest, Michael Heseltine attracted the backing of many ex-ministers. On the second ballot, the Thatcherites or Euro-sceptics as they are now known, split. Some, such as Edward Leigh and James Pawsey, backed Mr Heseltine. Others, such as Nicholas and Ann Winterton, now very critical of government policy, backed Mr Major.

The Euro-sceptics — totalling at most 80, or about a quarter of Tory MPs — do not have a plausible leadership candidate. Their champions, Baroness Thatcher and Lord Tebbit, are now unavailable.

With the exception of free spirits such as John Biffen and Nicholas Budgen, the Euro-sceptics are an unimpressive bunch, largely failed ex-ministers and those who never made under-secretary. None

The serious candidates are all in the cabinet. The three frontrunners — Kenneth Clarke, Michael Heseltine and Douglas Hurd — are even more pro-EC than Mr Major.

Until the latest political troubles began, Mr Clarke enjoyed a following on the Tory right, admired as a combative debater. However, his arguing for Maastricht — plus his contempt for the Thatcherite irreconcilables — have earned him enemies on the right. But his stock is rising.

Mr Heseltine had one of the roughest weeks because of the retreat over pit closures. That has raised questions over his normally sure judgement. But it is never wise to write off Mr Heseltine. His reputation may take time to recover, but he will appeal to those wanting strong leadership. Several Euro-sceptics say privately that they would back him.

Mr Hurd has shown steadiness and authority during

crisis. Although unpopular with the Euro-sceptics, he would attract support from those looking for reassurance.

The only remotely possible contenders among Euro-sceptic sympathisers in the cabinet are Michael Howard and Michael Portillo. Despite a solid ministerial record and a strong election campaign, Mr Howard does not yet have broad support among MPs. Mr Portillo, still under 40, has been in the cabinet for only six months and is the pundit's next prime minister but two.

This race card underlines the relative strength of Mr Major's position, with no sign of a challenge from within the cabinet, and no serious backbench candidate.

PETER RIDDELL

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## Escape clause for Denmark strengthens Major's hand

■ Early publication of Denmark's Maastricht proposal undercuts one of the main arguments of Conservative Euro-sceptics and the Labour party.

FROM CHRISTOPHER FOLLETT IN COPENHAGEN

DENMARK'S Conservative-Liberal minority government is due to present its parliament today with a draft "national compromise" for reversing the Danes' rejection of the Maastricht.

The plan, to be finally approved by parliament's EC affairs committee on Friday, calls for special protocols to the treaty allowing Denmark to opt out of plans for joint EC currency, defence, citizenship and law enforcement.

The proposal, virtually identical to that unveiled last week by the opposition majority led by the Social Democrats, will also call for openness, democracy and decentralisation in EC decision-making and minimal interference from Brussels. Denmark will want assurances that the influence of smaller states remains undiluted in any new, extended Community as well as guarantees of closer economic cooperation through the Single Market.

The government wants a clause in the protocol expressing Denmark's willingness to provide aid to poorer EC states.

Poul Schluter, the prime minister, said the plan supported by seven of the eight political parties in parliament — the outsider being the maverick, ultra-rightist Progress Party — had good chances of being accepted by other EC members as well as by the Danish electorate. But the crucial issue of how to get round their refusal to re-open the treaty to accommodate the Danes is evaded.

The support of the Socialist Peoples' party, which led

opposition against the treaty and which was one of the architects of the opposition's "national compromise" plan, will increase the chances of a "yes" in a new referendum in the spring.

After the proposal is announced on Friday, Uffe Elleman-Jensen, the foreign minister, is to embark in early November on a tour of EC capitals to clarify Denmark's stance. Denmark hopes the deal will be discussed at the EC summit in Edinburgh, allowing parliament to pass the necessary legislation in early 1993 prior to the holding of a fresh plebiscite.

Britain has welcomed the early publication of the Danish proposal. It undercuts one of the main arguments of Conservative Euro-sceptics and the Labour party that no debate on Maastricht can begin at Westminster until Denmark's views are known.

□ The European Commission must prove its ability to conduct important negotiations on behalf of the EC's 12 states by finalising a deal in the faltering world trade talks, Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary said yesterday (George Brock writes from Strasbourg). Mr Hurd told the European Parliament that "no other single factor" could do more to solve the world's current economic problems than a new trade liberalisation treaty under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade. But the trade deal is paralysed by long-running disputes over farm subsidies between the EC and America.

The cabinet also weighed in with an assault on Labour's apparently changing position. It is clear that if Mr Major is forced to retreat next week, he will blame Labour's alleged turn; the party is expected to vote against the "paving" motion because it says Mr Major is treating it as a confidence vote. In the Commons yesterday Mr Major accused John Smith of undermining the case for Europe with his "manoeuvrings" over next week's vote. Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, openly blamed Labour during a speech in the European parliament for deepening the political crisis over the Maastricht treaty. "In the last few days we seem to have seen a change for the worse in the attitude of the British Labour party which, if confirmed, is a serious matter," he said.

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Danish advocates: Poul Schluter, the prime minister, with Uffe Elleman-Jensen, the foreign minister

## Cabinet faces up to Maastricht rebels

Continued from page 1

eccentric rightwingers still grieving over Thatcher's demise, holding ramped up meetings and then descending the staircase grandly to give the government their latest instructions."

As Mr Dykes spoke out his pro-European friends belatedly began organising Maastricht support for the prime minister. Two senior MPs, Sir Anthony Grant and Ray Whiting, formed a special group to plot tactics in support of the cabinet line, and Ian Taylor, a parliamentary aide to William Waldegrave, tried to reactivate the moribund Conservative Group for Europe.

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Leading article, page 17

## Whips' instincts to fore in vital motion

By PHILIP WEBSTER, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE instincts of the whips will be to the fore this week as the government decides the form of the motion on which it may stake its credibility in the Maastricht debate.

John Major, a former whip, will play the key role in determining what the cabinet can get through the restless parliamentary party. He will be advised by Richard Ryder, the chief whip. Tony Newton, Commons leader, Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, and, almost certainly, Lord Wakeham, a former chief whip. Sir Norman Fowler, the party chairman, will also be involved, giving Mr Major the latest state of grassroots opinion.

Mr Major and that ministerial group had a brief discussion on options for a motion yesterday, carefully leaving open the possibility of a technical adjournment motion next Wednesday that would help the prime minister to avoid an outright clash with his backbenchers.

An adjournment motion would make life easier both for the Tory rebels and Labour Euro enthusiasts. The rebels could happily treat it as a vote without any commitment to Maastricht.

Labour MPs who might be worried about seeing the party depart from its pro-Maastricht stance could vote against the government with a clear conscience. The cabinet will make the final decision tomorrow.



Gardiner: "Major's survival is at stake"

had to act decisively to restore his authority, and he chose the very worst issue on which to do it — the issue that was guaranteed to split the party from top to bottom.

There was no consultation with the party, just as there had been no consultation over the pit closures. Then, to compound the damage, we had the ludicrous threat of a general election if the prime minister could not get his way on this one issue.

I have a lot of admiration for John Major, and I just do not believe him capable of such a petulant act to punish the party — his own party — which he feels has let him down. I'm sure he has no wish to become

## Normal pantomime service resumes as dame arrives in style

MATTHEW PARRIS

POLITICAL SKETCH

too loud to be an MP. And Dame Jill settled into their seats to watch.

It would have been hard for Mr Major and Mr Smith to live up to the backdrop or the moment. They didn't. Major must be judged the winner because he stayed cocky and upright when Smith ought to have been able to floor him.

We dare not advise Labour leaders what to ask, but we did rather think the question of the day was whether or not the PM deemed the coming Maastricht debate an issue of confidence. Major would not have answered, of course, but it might have been fun to watch him not answering.

Instead, we watched Mr Smith stage a minor volcanic eruption on the subject of the economy, to be answered by a minor tidal wave of facts and statistics from Mr Major. The commotion went on for some time, augmented by a small attempted earth tremor from Paddy Ashdown. Eventually we were rescued by Roger Evans (C. Monmouth) who reminded MPs of the real Dame Jill Knight?

In recent weeks, the presence behind Mr Major's shoulder at PM's questions of Dame Jill, redoubtable member for Edgbaston and cornerstone of the 1922 committee, has lent an air of opera bouffe to proceedings. A retired actress and one-time star of the *Girls' Gang Show*, the dignity which in latter years has settled upon Dame Jill only adds to the diva quality so unmistakably hers. She is the Tory party's cuddly version of Kiri Te Kanawa, perhaps a shade larger and a little more manure.

And she dresses the part never less than striking. Last week, in almost every TV picture of Mr Major in crisis, viewers saw a lady behind him robed in something which might have been designed for a Sabena air hostess in the futuristic 50s. It was Dame Jill.

PM's questions yesterday were an important test for Mr Major. The Dame's outfit made that clear. To call it arresting would understate. It was tiny black, setting off the violent colours of something more a man than a collar: a great plunging V described by two broad stripes, one within the other, the outer stripe turquoise, the inner one magenta. At the sharp end of the V hung a large medallion. The effect was of a cross between an Olympic swimmer and Dr Who.

On to the benches opposite strode Jimmy Hood MP (Lab, Clydesdale) dressed in a zoot-suit whose colour can only be compared with pinky-orange blanchemange. Rather too old to be a gangster, Mr Hood looked

threat to our nation: "the curse of new age travellers".

With infinite relief, the prime minister turned to deal with this question, at some length. This gave Edwina Currie the time to get out her "I [picture of heart] BASILDON" sticker, which (to Madame Speaker's distress) she held up for the cameras as Basildon's David Amess rose with a helpful enquiry about plummeting mortgage rates in Basildon. Then Labour's Kim Howells (Pontypridd) called Mark Thatcher a "grease-palmer", a case of courtesy mitigated by dyslexia.

... And normal pantomime service resumed. Dame Jill's medallion flashed in the TV lights as Mr Hood inspected his pink suit for soup stains. Madam Speaker gathered in her gown. Dr Spink (C. Castle Point) polished his big specs in preparation for his "10 minute rule bill" on pornography, and Mrs Mary Whitehouse (or was it Edna Everage?) watched, fascinated, from the special gallery. MPs dreamed, not just of the etas of today, but of the etas of tomorrow, too.

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## MPs must get Major off the hook — again

WAS it only a week ago that we were basking in the pits closure crisis? This week it is the Prime Minister himself who needs help. We have to face the unpalatable fact that his survival is now at stake.

Personally, I hope desperately that he does survive this crisis. But for him to do so requires an *instinct for survival* that for the moment seems to have deserted him.

For John Major, nothing has gone right since the central pillar of his economic policy collapsed — our membership of the ERM. Why was it we had to wait more than four weeks before any commitment was given to a new strategy for recovery? Was it because a powerful group of ministers were still intent on the pound shadowing the mark in the hope of getting us back into the ERM at a lower price as soon as possible?

Our hopes for recovery bled away while ministers made up their minds. It is this lapse in leadership that has left John Major in such a weak position to take on a substantial section of his own party over Maastricht.

On top of this came the pit closures crisis. Then, to compound the damage, we had the ludicrous threat of a general election if the prime minister could not get his way on this one issue.

I have a lot of admiration for John Major, and I just do not believe him capable of such a petulant act to punish the party — his own party — which he feels has let him down. I'm sure he has no wish to become

the Tory party's Ramsay MacDonald. One can argue whether the Queen would ever agree to a dissolution only six months after an election that returned a government with a decisive majority, and which had not even put its support to the test of a motion of confidence.

But apart from this, it is just not credible that a cabinet party would even allow a prime minister to ask for a dissolution without first seeking the confidence of the House, since this would sign them all to political oblivion for a Parliament or more.

I do not believe that John Major has this death wish, but there is no reason why the rest of the cabinet and party should be partners in a suicide pact. So what should senior backbenchers do in this crisis? We should do what we did in the pit crisis a week ago and find a way of letting John Major off the hook if we are to have a "paving motion" next week approving the principles of Maastricht — and I see no earthly reason why we should — then it should be on a free vote. And I mean a genuine free vote. The Opposition would have to allow a free vote too — and it is possible that this would give John Major the majority he seeks. Alternatively the debate could be on a procedural motion, such as on

the adjournment, which would allow all Tories to demonstrate their desire for John Major to remain in office, but avoid any commitment to Maastricht.

After that, the urgent task must be to heal the wounds inflicted on the Tory party — outside the House, as well as in. That will mean returning to the strategy outlined by John Major on 24 September when he said: "It would not make sense to bring the Maastricht bill back to the House of Commons before we know clearly what the Danish intentions are, and when and how the Danes propose to consult their people again." This would involve no loss of face for John Major at all, and at least allow the Tory party to regroup ready for all the difficult economic challenges that lie ahead. The alternative is to order the whips to twist so many people's arms that a majority for a "paving motion" on Maastricht is secured — just.

Yet the price of that will be a bitterly divided party at Westminster, and a party smitten to its knees outside. Is this what John Major wants? I just cannot believe it. There has to be a better way of party management than this.

GEORGE GARDINER  
Sir George Gardiner is  
Conservative MP for Reigate

671.10.1992

Clyde report calls for better training after damning criticism of social services, care agencies and police

## Care workers 'acted irrationally' in Orkney abuse case

By RAY CLANCY

CHILD care and social workers failed to keep an open mind when investigating allegations of organised abuse in Orkney, a highly critical report by Lord Clyde, published yesterday, concludes. They acted quickly and irrationally and did not consider an alternative to taking the children into care.

Lord Clyde, who chaired the judicial enquiry into the case, orders the Orkney Islands council to improve relations with the 1,000 people on the island of South Ronaldsay. His report recommends changes in the law and improved training for social workers, care officials and police.

The enquiry came after the nine children were taken from their homes in February 1991 and returned three months later after Sheriff David Kelbie said that the investigation by the social work department had been fatally flawed.

### How events on the islands unfolded

November 7 1990: The first of eight children from South Ronaldsay taken into care. One tells a social worker she had made "wild passionate love" with the local minister.

February 6 1991: Another girl, 8, tells RSPCC and police interviewers of bizarre sex rituals in an island quarry led by the Rev Morris McKenzie and involving other children and adults. Over the next few days a brother, 7, and sisters, 9, appear to back up the claims.

February 13 1991: Police and social workers "convinced there is an organised network of child sex abuse on the island. Meetings held to decide action.

February 27 1991: A 20-car convoy of police and social workers descends on South Ronaldsay just after 7am. Nine children from four families are taken and flown to the mainland. Three sets of parents and the McKenzies are questioned by police.

March 1 1991: More than 100 islanders attend a public meeting at St Margaret's Hope village hall. Parents describe events when their children were taken away.

Other families talk about a second wave and plan to hide their children.

March 5 1991: A Children's Panel hearing in Kirkwall grants 21-day place-of-safety orders on all nine children.

Lord Clyde agreed that it was right to return the children, but that the move had been carried out too quickly.

"Although by normal standards the return was managed at an undue speed, the decision to achieve an immediate return cannot reasonably be criticised in the circumstances," he said.

The children were seized after allegations of sex abuse made by three children. Sheriff Kelbie said that threw out the case in Kirkwall in April last year, saying that social workers had coached the children. They were flown home that day. The strength of the allegations has not been tested. Lord Clyde's remit did not allow him to investigate whether or not organised abuse was taking place.

Lord Clyde calls for urgent research into all forms of child abuse and, in particular, cases of multiple abuse in rural areas of Scotland, and a better

relationship between all agencies involved. The discovery of abuse should not be the monopoly of one organisation.

The report was expected to be hard on the social work department and officials from the Scottish Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, but the extent of the indictment was a surprise. Lord Clyde made 135 criticisms and accused the social work department of not making a detailed enough study of the problem relating to the original family and allowing "thinking to be coloured by undefined suspicions".

The list of criticisms included the following findings:

□ A failure on the part of social workers, the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children and the police to distinguish adequately between taking the allegations seriously and believing them.

□ A failure by the same agencies to appreciate the significance of the fact that the allegations did not come from the allegedly abused children and that greater regard should have been given to the source from which the allegations had come.

□ The degree of risk to the nine children involved was not adequately assessed. The social work department failed to consider whether there was any other appropriate action than removal of the children and acted too precipitately.

□ A failure by social workers to reassess the position in the light of medical examinations, for which parents should have been asked to sign written consent forms.

□ Inadequate consideration was given by the social work department to the support of the parents. Further and fuller information should have been given to the parents and they should have been given information about the whereabouts of their children.

□ The interviewers failed to plan adequately how to deal with a child's denial of allegations and how to introduce explicit information. They over-stressed their belief in the truth of the allegations. The police interviewers were inadequately trained and lack adequate supervision.

Lord Clyde recommended better training for social workers, care workers and police, to be introduced quickly. Central and local governments should consider the introduction of a three-year qualification course for social workers and post-qualifying training as a priority.

August 26 1991: The enquiry, under Lord Clyde, opens in Kirkwall town hall.

May 12 1992: The enquiry ends after 135 days of evidence from 69 witnesses at a cost of £6 million.



Mutual support: one of the families whose anguish is ended by the report. "It is not a whitewash, I am so glad of that," a mother said

## Flaws exposed in Scots law

By JEREMY LAURANCE, HEALTH SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

SCOTTISH social workers

would say "It could never happen here", when a child abuse scandal broke south of the border. Then it did.

Through the 1970s and 1980s, a string of tragedies had unfolded in England from Maria Colwell to Jasmine Beckford, each followed by an enquiry that found serious shortcomings in the child protection system. Scotland somehow escaped these disasters – until Orkney.

Scottish social workers believed it was their unique legal system that protected them from scandal. The widely-admired children's panels, presided over by a lay "reporter", put the welfare of the child first in contrast to the adversarial English system in which the interests of the child have tended to get overlooked.

Its failure in the Orkney case prompted one English social services director to comment: "It just proves how difficult it is to get these cases right." The Clyde report's central criticism of the Orkney social workers and police is their failure to distinguish between taking the children's allegations seriously and believing them.

Child sex abuse is still a new phenomenon to social workers and there is little experience anywhere of investigations of multiple abuse. When a new condition is described there is often a flurry of excitement among professionals. When it

involves emotionally powerful material it is all the more likely to affect judgement and action.

The Clyde report makes clear that the sledgehammer response to allegations of sex abuse, using all legal and social work powers, is not appropriate. Too little consideration was given to alternatives to removing the children, it says, especially given the "complexity, labour and expense" of the operation.

As the 1988 Cleveland enquiry by Lord Justice Butler-Sloss also noted, aggressive intervention can cause the system to buckle. "Pause and think" is Lord Clyde's advice, echoing Butler-Sloss's admonition: "Cautious, measured intervention."

In England, social workers believe that changes in the law and social work practice in the last two years make an incident like the Orkney case less

likely. The Children Act gives parents stronger powers, an improved appeal system to the court and imposes new controls on the removal of children from their families.

The Criminal Justice Act includes a "memorandum of good practice" covering procedures for interviewing children and the health department has issued further advice. "These are all checks and balances that did not exist two or three years ago," Ian White, immediate past president of the Association of Directors of Social Services, said. "In England and Wales there has been a significant shift of power back to the parents."

The Clyde report leaves unanswered whether ritual abuse occurred on the island of South Ronaldsay. Social workers are still uncertain whether it exists at all.

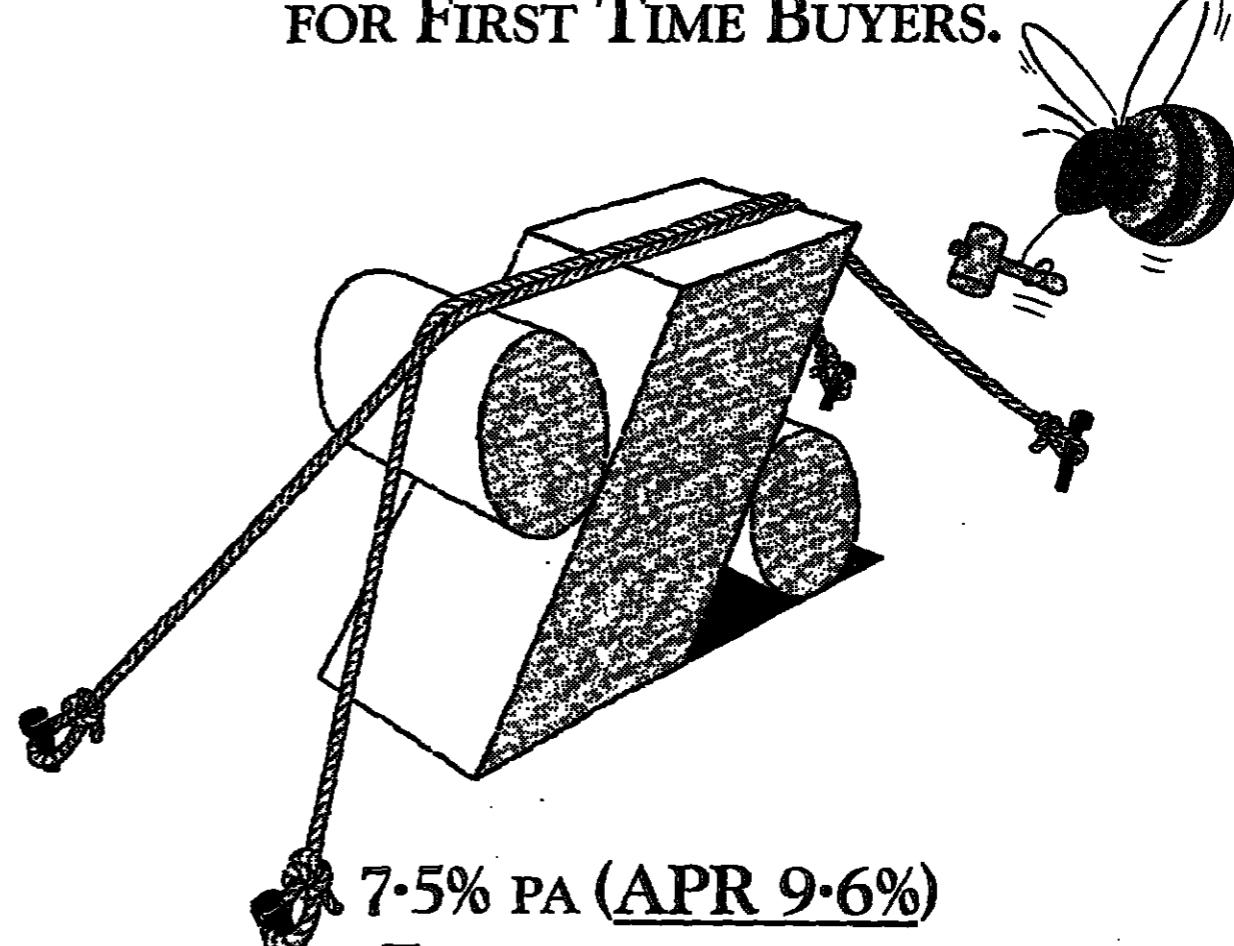
## Delighted parents free to smile again

SMILING for almost the first time in two years, one of the mothers whose children were taken from home in the Orkney dawn raids said yesterday that she was relieved and delighted by the Clyde report's findings. "It is not a whitewash, I am so glad of that," one mother said.

The parents had travelled to Kirkwall to pick up copies of the report so that the community could read it first-hand. Some stayed at home, still too upset to face the media and the council officials whom they have come to regard with suspicion.

On South Ronaldsay, harvest festivals, traditionally decorated with straw emblems of fertility, have been low key this year. Hallowe'en masks have been left on the shop shelves because of fears that they, like the pantomime masks seized from the church by police, could be misconstrued as some sort of devilish sign.

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## Loss of vital services saps strength of English villages

By KATE ALDERSON

RURAL England is in decay and the fabric of village life is being eroded because many services on which remote villages depend are being withdrawn on the grounds of unprofitability and under-use.

Shops, post offices, public houses, schools, village halls and bus services, regarded as sure of themselves as fairground fortune-tellers, their columns joke-free zones of grave-faced predictions. Politicians adore them for giving the lie to the notion that politics is the art of making the inevitable seem planned; week in, week out, they emphasise the skills and wiles of individual politicians, flattering them with the notion that they are the very lynchpins upon which the future of Britain turns.

Unlike a joke, which can be judged in a second, the prediction of the political commentator cannot be judged for a good six months, by which time it will have been forgotten anyway, buried under a hundred new predictions.

Who first mistook Mr Major's dullness for expertise, naivety for clear-sightedness, quietness for depth, timidity for toughness? Why, political commentators! *Private Eye*, that hotbed of frivolity, portrayed him as an Aztec Mole figure, incompetent, well-meaning, dull-witted and hopeless. Of the two – satirist and political commentator – which seems the more accurate now?

Leader, page 17

PROVIDED SERVICES IN RURAL AREAS

Services	Services	% parishes
Police station	Dentist	98
Ambulance station	Gas	98
Hospital	Pharmacy	98
Public nursery	Sports field	97
Secondary school	Community centre	97
Swimming pool	Local library	95
Day care group for elderly	Public telephones	95
Rail service		94
Fire station		93

Source: Rural Development Commission 1981 survey of 7,295 parishes

## NT chief accuses BBC of inertia

By ALISON ROBERTS  
ARTS REPORTER

THE director of the Royal National Theatre launched a powerful attack on the beleaguered BBC management yesterday, accusing it of encouraging an "inert and supine bureaucracy" which measures success purely by programme ratings instead of quality of output.

Speaking at the Arts Council's first conference on the arts and broadcasting in Brighton, Richard Eyre criticised the corporation for embracing market forces too readily in an attempt "to stay one jump ahead of the government".

"They have espoused producer choice – a policy of chaos and confusion. The consequence of all this loss of nerve in the management is a loss of vision... The BBC crisis is a crisis of faith." A packed auditorium of producers, directors and artists, representing the cream of British arts broadcasting, greeted the speech with prolonged applause.

While Lord Palumbo, chairman of the Arts Council, opened the conference with an upbeat message asking the delegates to preserve a safe home for the arts on television, Mr Eyre lamented the demise of the public broadcasting ideal and a golden age of British arts broadcasting.

Alan Yentob, controller of BBC2, contrasted British television with its European counterpart which "has suffered from too much regulation, deregulation and self-abuse".

Surgeon says detective has good chance of recovery after 11½ hr operation

## Police officer's hand sewn on after attack

By NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR

THE policeman who lost a hand after being attacked with a samurai sword has an excellent chance of recovery, according to a surgeon who helped sew the hand back on.

David Gault, consultant plastic surgeon at Mount Vernon Hospital in Northwood, north London, who led a team of six surgeons and eight medical staff, working in shifts in an 11½-hr operation, said that it could not have gone better.

The hospital said last night that Sgt Bob Window, from Edmonton police station, was "comfortable". A spokeswoman said: "He may have some soup later this evening. He has only had a glass of water so far."

It would be several days before doctors could assess the success of the operation. It is hoped that Sgt Window will be able to return to normal activities such as driving and playing cricket.

Sgt Window's left hand was hacked off after he and two colleagues entered flats in

First the bones were fixed together with metal plates and then the blood vessels were reconnected to restore circulation before the cells of the hand had time to die. Attempts to re-attach limbs after more than about six hours run the risk of allowing dead cells to enter the body, where they can cause damage to organs such as the liver.

The final stage, in the early hours of the morning, was to sew together the outer skin and fix the limb in a half plaster cast, which allows doctors to observe the colour and temperature of the palm.

Mr Gault said: "It is certainly long and time-consuming, but it's not technically very

demanding. It's just a question of persevering." It may have been fortunate for Sgt Window that the journey to the hospital was not longer. If so, the improvised ice-pack might have done more harm than good by freezing his severed hand.

Mr Gault advised yesterday that the best method of preservation is a mixture of ice and

water, to keep the limb at freezing point but not colder. To restore the blood supply, two major arteries and five veins had to be reconnected, using needles finer than a human hair and working through a microscope. By 10pm on Monday, five and a half hours after Sgt Window was attacked, the blood vessels had been reconnected and the

severed hand began to regain colour. In general, operations to reconnect hands have a good success rate; the higher up the arm, the less effective they tend to be. Sgt Window suffered serious damage to tendons and nerves. The nerves must be realigned so that natural growth can repair the connection. This may take months or years.

Surgeon David Gault yesterday: "The operation could not have gone better"

Window: attacked with a samurai sword

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## Britons' Costa villas blighted

By EDWARD OWEN  
IN MADRID

THE owners of about £4.5 million worth of holiday villas and retirement homes in Spain, most of them Britons, have found that they cannot sell or bequeath the properties because regional authorities on the Costa Blanca have decided to extend a natural park without notification.

All the houses were built legally, some over 100 years ago, but the Denia local authority and the Valencia government, which issued the decree, have announced that they will have first rights to acquire the properties in future, without saying how or when. A recent town development, Los Lagos, approved by Denia's planning department in a non-urban zone, escapes the ruling although in the same area.

The Valencian decree, issued last July, extended the Mongo natural park, a 2,471 ft mountain between the resorts of Denia and Javea, to a strip of land between the previous park limits and a road linking the two towns.

John Mordock, one of 50 residents opposing the decree, said: "I have owned my house for 21 years and it is about 180 years old. I intend to fight this diabolical law. I only found out about it when I put my house on the market."

## Britons share Iraqi cell

Michael Wainwright, right, the British cyclist jailed in Iraq, is now sharing a cell with Paul Ride, the British catering manager, and two Swedes, his family said yesterday. He has taken up model-making and has asked for a supply of glue and matchsticks. Mr Wainwright's sister Heather Horne, 31, of Sowerby Bridge, West Yorkshire, said: "He seems to be in good spirits, very chirpy."



## Dodgers face spot fines

London Transport is to introduce on-the-spot fines on Underground and bus services to stamp out fare evasion. On the Underground, a £10 "penalty fare" will be introduced in mid-1994 while a £5 fine will be introduced on buses from next spring. The move follows the success of a penalty fares system on Network SouthEast which has saved millions of pounds in lost revenue. London Underground plans to improve its ticket machines so there will be even less excuse for travelling without a ticket.

## Stranded sailors rebel

A crew of Russian sailors stranded at Leith docks, near Edinburgh, are threatening to seize their ship today unless a court in Moscow orders the payment of four months wages. The crew of the *Baltika* has been surviving on charity while a legal battle for ownership of the boat remains unresolved. Captain Lev Balakhontsev says that if the Russian Supreme Court delays a decision due today, he will sell the ship.

## Bathers shun Blackpool sea

By RONALD FAUX

THERE were 3,000 bathers in Blackpool yesterday, enjoying the 82-degree waters and a wave-lapped shore as pink flamingoes flapped peacefully overhead. The fact that the water was chlorinated, the waves artificially induced and the flamingoes heavy-duty glass fibre material not an ice cream cone.

For the revellers in the town's £17 million Sand Castle entertainment centre, the surrogate seaside was definitely preferable to the real thing which, swept by wind and rain was living up to John Collins' assertion that Blackpool did not possess a bathing beach.

John Donovan, secretary of the Blackpool Hotel and Guesthouse Association, the biggest organisation of its kind in Europe, said: "The sea is really irrelevant now to Blackpool and anyone who went bathing in it today wants

beach and water only knee-deep a quarter of a mile from the shore. Numbers became diluted and it was often difficult to get down to the business of actually swimming."

"When we realised there was a problem we did turn our backs on the beaches and concentrate on developing entertainment on shore," he said. "Blackpool now earns £454 million from tourism so clearly not many people are put off by the publicity about the state of the sea."

A solution to the problem was on the way. Next season the inshore waters are to be dosed with disinfectant and if North West Water succeeds at a forthcoming public enquiry, the effluent that gives the town a bad name will be purified at a treatment works long before it enters the sea.

EC court case, page 1

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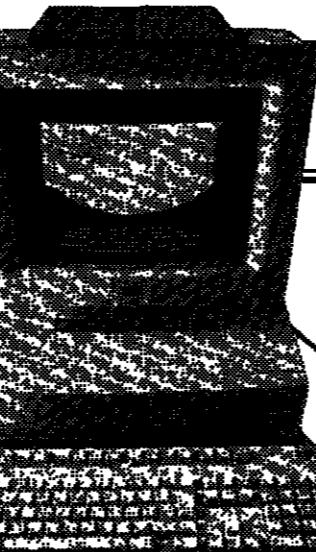
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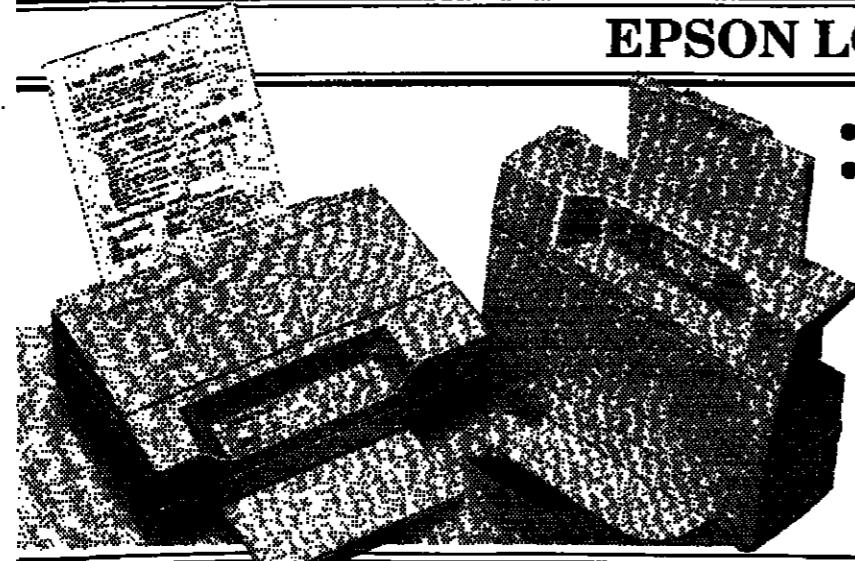


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LOS ANGELES	32	132
SINGAPORE	41	163
STOCKHOLM	8	24
EDINBURGH	5	9
NICE	12	17

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CHRIS HARRIS

## NEWS IN BRIEF

## Robbery trial man disappears

A man accused of kidnapping a security guard and plotting a £250,000 robbery has disappeared halfway through his trial at the Central Criminal Court. The judge has ruled that the trial should continue in his absence.

Michael Billings, 26, of Islington, north London, was on bail and had been due in court on Monday to hear the start of the defence case. Mr Billings, his brother, Terrence, 40, and Cecil Brown, 30, all of Islington, have denied blackmail, kidnap and conspiring to rob in London last December.

Mr Justice Swinton Thomas adjourned the trial on Monday, but called the jurors back yesterday. He warned them not to draw any adverse inference against the missing man "or assume he is guilty simply because he is not here".

## Girl, 12, wins damages award

A girl aged 12 who was brain-damaged at birth was awarded £500,000 agreed damages by the High Court yesterday. The court was told that Gowri Kandiah, of East Molesey, Surrey, had cerebral palsy and would always be reliant upon her parents.

She was aware only of light and dark and had difficulty understanding sounds. Hammersmith and Fulham Health Authority denied negligence at Gowri's birth at West London Hospital in July 1980.

## Police review murder case

Kent police have sent a report to the Home Office after being ordered to look again at a murder case 12 years ago. Peter Luckhurst was jailed for life for the murder of Gwendoline Marshall, 79, who died in Pluckley when a pitchfork was stuck in her neck.

Police were ordered to review the case after a campaign by villagers, a solicitor and a private detective. The report's conclusions are not yet known.

## Body concealed

John Grindrod, 87, lay dead in his home in Fallowfield, Greater Manchester, for more than six months while Florence Rimmer, 58, continued to draw his pension, an inquest was told. She is due in court accused of deception and concealing a body.

## Charity sale



Earrings worn by Julie Goodwin, above, who plays Bet Lynch in *Coronation Street*, will be among the items donated for a charity auction for a body scanner at Cheltenham hospital on November 13. Signed photographs of John Major and Baroness Thatcher will also be on sale.

## Teenager held

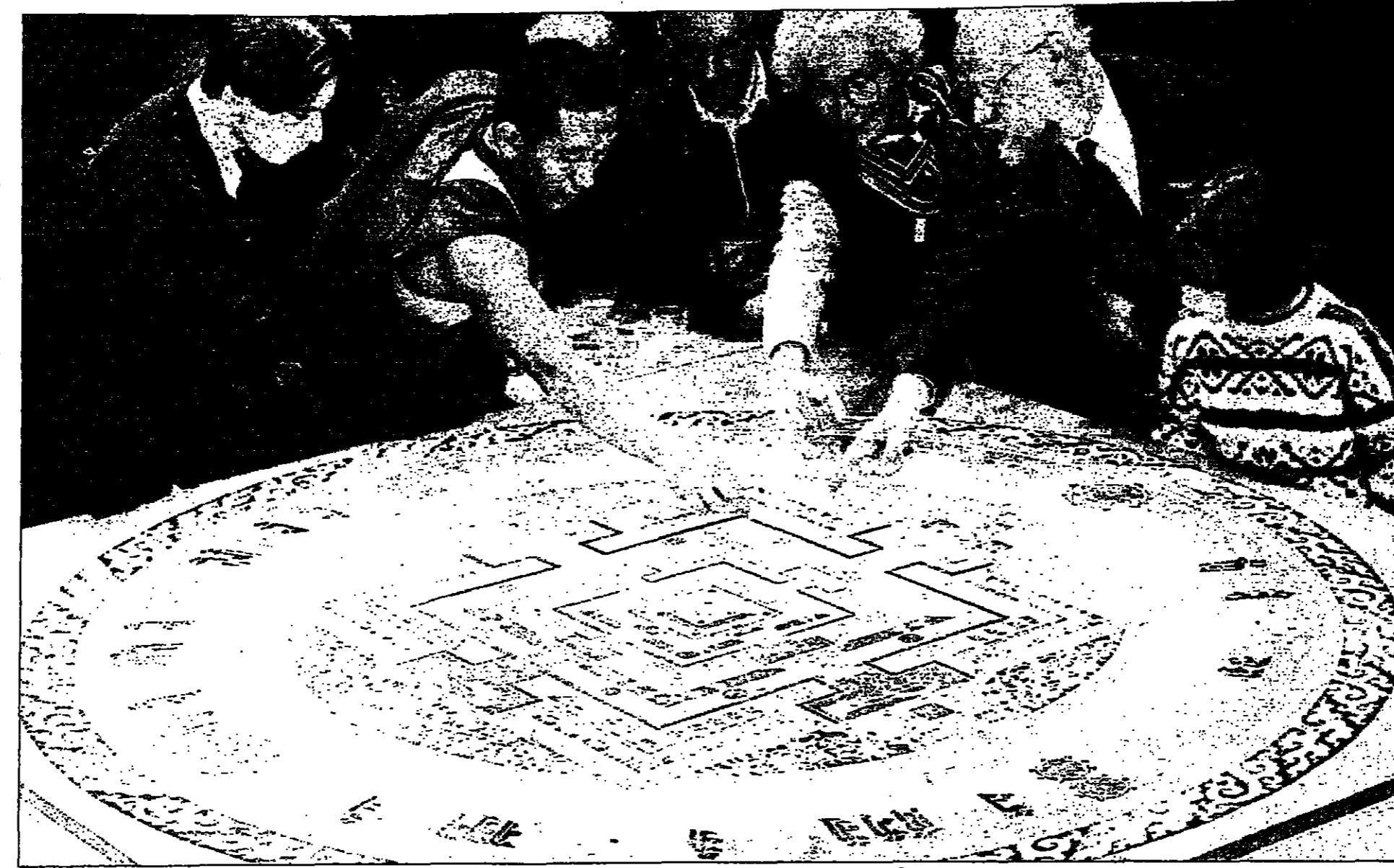
Four people, including a girl aged 12, were arrested after a fight with police in Lympstone, Hampshire, on Monday night. Four police were hurt in the fight, which began when they tried to arrest a teenager for a public order offence.

## Cones stolen

Thieves who stole traffic cones from a contravention system in Swindon, Wiltshire, were blamed by police for causing a lorry to crash into scaffolding. The driver was unhurt.

## Blind charge

William Plessey, a blind man aged 63, of Jarrow, Tyne and Wear, is to be sent for trial at Newcastle upon Tyne Crown Court, accused of indecently assaulting three women.



Blessings numerous as the sand

Fingers in the sand: Ven. Thiray, right, a Buddhist monk from Tibet, points out some of the 722 deities on the Sand Kalachakra Mandala, which he helped create (Julia Llewellyn Smith writes)

The mandala is made from coloured sand from ground precious stones and is on display in The Sacred Art of Tibet exhibition at the Royal Academy of Arts, in London.

Buddhists believe that the completed sand mandala embodies a vast store of spiritual energy, as each grain of sand is charged with the blessings of a ritual. The art of creating sand mandalas has been passed on from teacher to student since the sixth century.

Each mandala is seen by Buddhists as a sacred mansion with a particular deity residing at the centre. This mandala is devoted to peace and physical balance. Buddhists say that the mandala is an expression of the Buddha's fully enlightened mind. The Dalai Lama says that a person who sees the Kalachakra mandala will feel the world's tensions and violence transformed into beneficial wisdom and intuition.

The exhibition, sponsored by *The Times*, runs until December 13.

## Defence ministry considers arming against Third World missile risk

BY MICHAEL EVANS  
DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

GOVERNMENT defence researchers are about to study the cost effectiveness of buying or developing a limited anti-ballistic missile system to counter threats from potentially hostile Third World countries within 3,000 kilometres (1,874 miles) of Britain.

A decision on whether to deploy a weapon system against medium-range ballistic missiles is expected in two or three years, defence ministry sources said yesterday. Since such a programme could cost several billion pounds, it would have implications for the whole defence procurement budget.

Theoretical studies were carried out by the ministry following President Reagan's "Star Wars" speech, in 1983, in which he called on American scientists to produce a system that would create a space- and ground-based anti-ballistic missile (ABM) shield against nuclear attack by the Soviet Union. However, there was no political support for a British ABM system.

Ministry officials said that there was now growing awareness that, with the proliferation of Third World countries acquiring or developing ballistic missiles, potentially with nuclear, chemical or biological warheads, the threat might have to be countered with a limited ABM system. Libya, for example, is about 3,000 kilometres from northern Scotland, within firing range for such a system as the Chinese-made CSS2 missile.

An anti-ballistic missile system would also defend against

■ The Cold war may be over, but threats of a mishap in Russia or aggression from a Third World nation are prompting a re-think of British defence policy that could involve upgrading the country's existing weaponry

accidental launch of missiles from former Soviet republics. Russian scientists have expressed concern over early-warning radar false alarms.

A British official said: "This issue has now moved to the front burner. However, just

because a country acquires the capability, it doesn't necessarily mean we have to counter it. We have to weigh up the threat it might pose to Britain and the cost effectiveness of having a system."

British systems likely to be

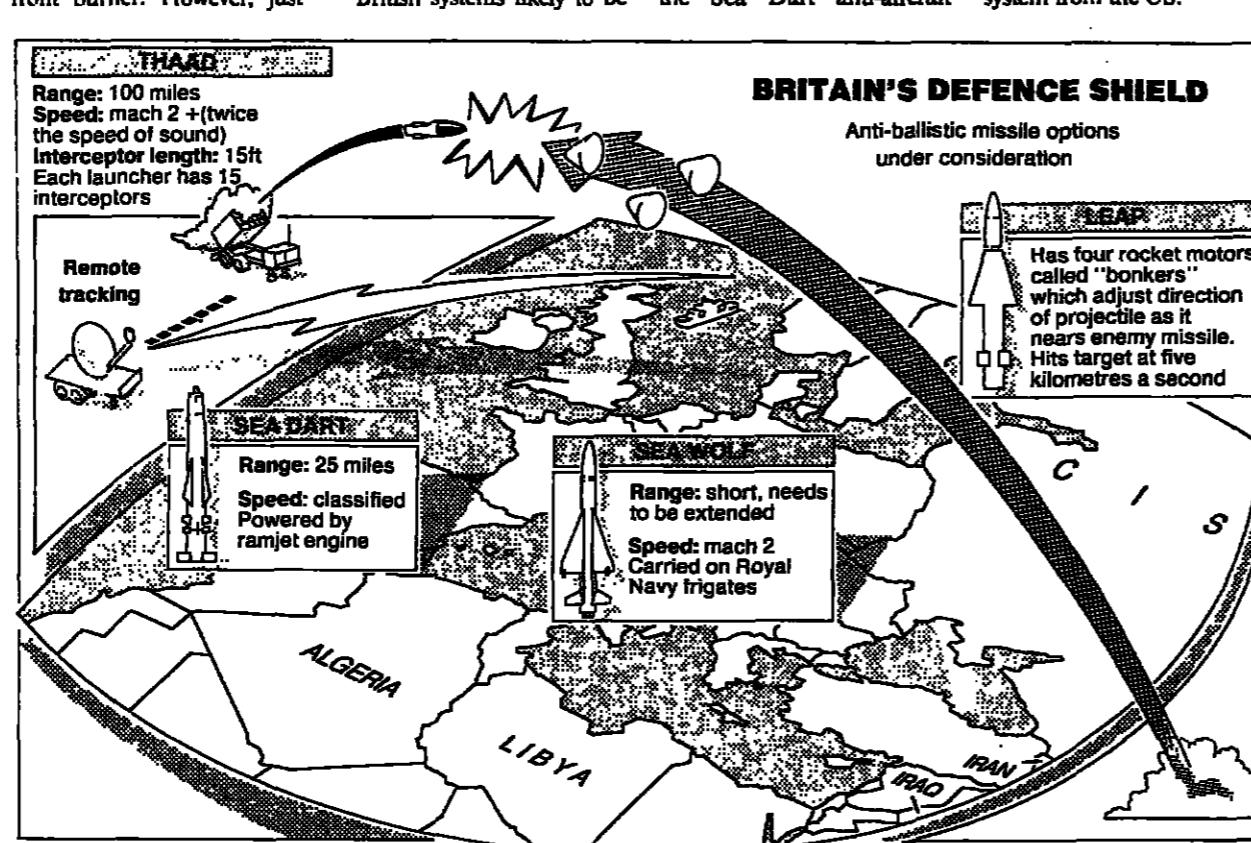
studied include a stretched version of the Royal Navy's Sea Wolf vertical-launch anti-missile weapon, whose range would have to be extended to reach altitudes of at least 100 kilometres (62.5 miles), and the Sea Dart anti-aircraft

missile, which has a range of about 25 miles.

These missiles could be modified for use as rockets to launch a small US-developed guided projectile, which, with the help of on-board computers, would steer itself into the path of a ballistic missile.

The American concept, part of the SDI programme, is called LEAP, light exoatmospheric projectile, under development by Hughes.

The other alternative would be to buy a complete weapon system from the US.



## Tongue-tied UK snubs visitors

BY HARVEY ELLIOTT, TRAVEL CORRESPONDENT

THE British insistence on speaking only English is keeping foreign tourists away, according to the British Tourist Authority.

Foreign visitors are increasingly disconcerted by linguistic disarray from monoglot shopkeepers, transport officials and traders, William Davis, the authority's chairman, said.

Mr Davis was speaking in London as he presented awards to the few companies and organisations that have taken foreign languages seriously.

"International competition for tourists is intensifying throughout the world and a Britain that is lost for words is in danger of losing a great

deal of future business," he said. "English is not the native language for more than half our tourists, so attracting visitors from non-English speaking markets is vital to the success of our tourism industry in the nineties."

A survey carried out for the authority by the Institute of Mampower Studies found that one in five of the people questioned reckoned that non-English speaking visitors accounted for more than a quarter of their turnover. Although 60 per cent had some staff capable of speaking a foreign language, 20 per cent relied solely on the ability of their overseas visitors to speak English.

Few sought out potential

staff for foreign language skills and few offered additional reward to multi-lingual staff, the survey showed.

The winners of the "Winning Words" awards included British Midland Airways, who train staff in French, German and Dutch; Lancashire County Council for producing brochures in seven languages and translating leaflets and guides; and Inverary jail in Argyll, Strathclyde, a tourist attraction with leaflets and guide books in four languages.

The authority called for more effort to learn Japanese, Korean, Taiwanese and eastern European languages to help non-English speaking visitors from those countries.

## Race monitor urged for school exams

BY RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

SCHOOLS should introduce racial monitoring of examination results, pupils' choice of subjects and streaming to ensure children are treated fairly and to tackle poor results by blacks and Asians, the Commission for Racial Equality said yesterday.

Teachers should check admissions, exclusions and suspensions to ensure that their policies do not disadvantage pupils from the ethnic minorities, according to a report published by the commission.

Its study of a comprehensive school in northern England found that Asian pupils were placed in English and mathematics sets below their ability and needed to score higher marks than white pupils to be placed in the top sets for non-GCSE vocational course.

According to the study, *Set to Fail?*, the school had difficulty identifying pupils needing special support because English was their second language and had failed to draw a distinction between learning difficulties and language problems.

The proposals extend the existing policy, which requires local education authorities and grant-maintained schools to collect information on the ethnic origin of pupils entering school at five and 11.

The northern school, which

had 1,117 pupils of whom 41 per cent were Asian, None of the 70 teachers was from an ethnic minority and at the time the report was being prepared none of the governors was black or Asian.

The study found that in their first year Asian pupils were more likely than white pupils to be placed in English and mathematics sets below their ability levels as assessed at primary school. To be placed in top sets for English, Asian pupils appeared to need higher marks than white pupils in the school's post-entry English test. It also found that Asian pupils were less likely than white pupils to take GCSE optional subjects and more likely to do the non-GCSE vocational course.

The report said that any substantial under- or over-representation of an ethnic group in any subject must be questioned and explained, along with the ethnic composition of sets, streams or bands.

The proposals extend the existing policy, which requires local education authorities and grant-maintained schools to collect information on the ethnic origin of pupils entering school at five and 11.

The northern school, which

## Muslim pupil sent home over beard

BY RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

A MUSLIM schoolboy is demanding an apology from his headmaster and compensation after being banned from lessons for refusing to shave off his beard.

Syed Dohan, 15, was sent home from his comprehensive school after he objected to the headmaster's demand that he remove the beard, which the boy says is part of his religious and cultural tradition.

His dispute with the headmaster of George Green school in the Isle of Dogs, east London, caused protests from the local Bengali population and the local education authority chairman has rebuked

the school's governors and headmaster.

Jonathan Stokes, chairman of Tower Hamlets education committee, said that he was exasperated at the escalation of the disagreement and that the attitude of the governors suggested a lack of cultural awareness.

Syed, studying for nine GCSEs, was sent home last term. After discussions during the summer holidays he was allowed back into the school but had to remain apart from other pupils in a detention room. He claims he was allowed to leave the room only at lunchtime and lacked supervision.

Syed, who was born in Bangladesh, said yesterday: "I was kept in detention on my own for one and a half months and have only just started going to normal classes."

He had never shaved his beard because he was following the traditions of Muhammad but he did wear the school uniform of navy blue trousers, white shirt, school tie, navy blue sweater and black shoes.

By allowing Syed to return to normal classes, the school has set a precedent that will probably lead to a change in its rules.



Dohan: beard is part of religious tradition

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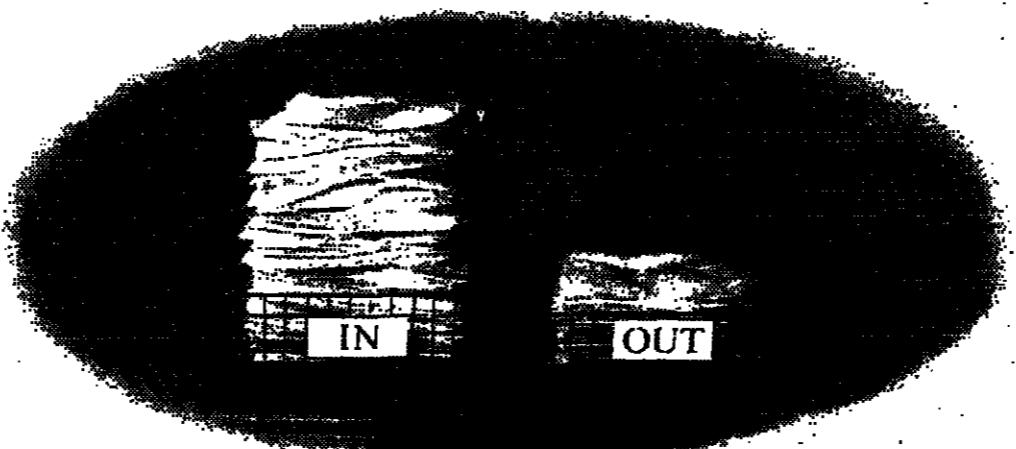
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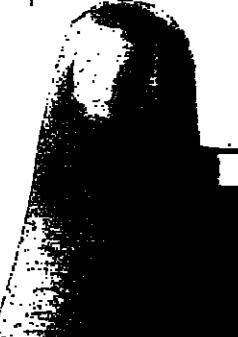
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July 1992



# Perot attacked on all sides for claims of smear tactics

FROM JAMIE DETTMER IN WASHINGTON

ROSS Perot's independent challenge for the White House appeared to have struck the rocks yesterday with the billionaire coming under attack from all sides for his bizarre allegations of Republican dirty tricks. Aides of Bill Clinton, clearly relieved by the turn of events, predicted that the Texan billionaire's late surge in the election would now peter out, leaving the Democrat comfortably ahead of President Bush.

Opinion polls conducted over the weekend and published yesterday appeared to indicate that the momentum Mr Perot enjoyed after his forceful performances in the presidential debates was beginning to slow even before

lican campaign had bugged his offices in the summer and planned to disrupt his daughter's wedding, the Democrats called a halt to their attacks on Mr Perot. "You don't interrupt your opponent when he is making a fool of himself," Paul Begala, a Clinton strategist, said. Mr Bush, however, campaigning in Iowa, was quick to criticise the Texan's "crazy" charges.

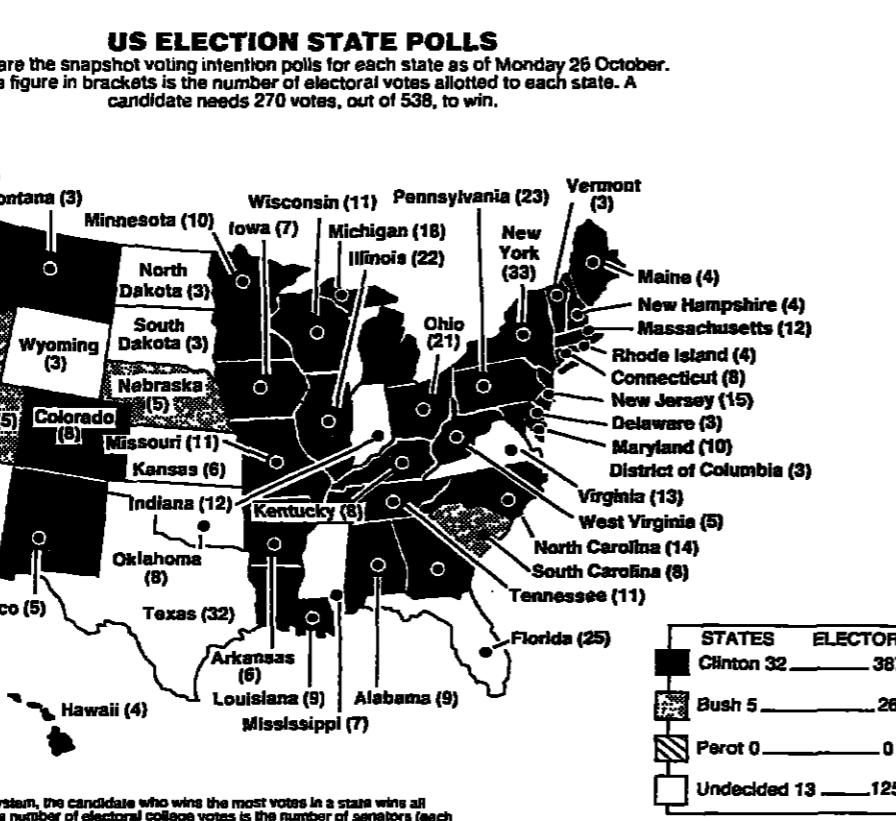
The American press was uniformly critical of Mr Perot yesterday and savaged the billionaire for his unsubstantiated charges. "God knows what inner self-destructive compulsion was at work," wrote one *New York Times* columnist. *The Washington Times* headlined its front-page coverage of Mr Perot's claims, "Crazy Man or Victim?" Several newspapers said that his allegations would revive voter fears that Mr Perot lives in a world of conspiracy theories.

The Perot camp failed again yesterday to come up with any evidence for the allegations, which included the claim that senior Republicans had doctored a photograph to depict one of his daughters as a lesbian. Mr Perot says he now accepts Republican denials of a dirty trick campaign.

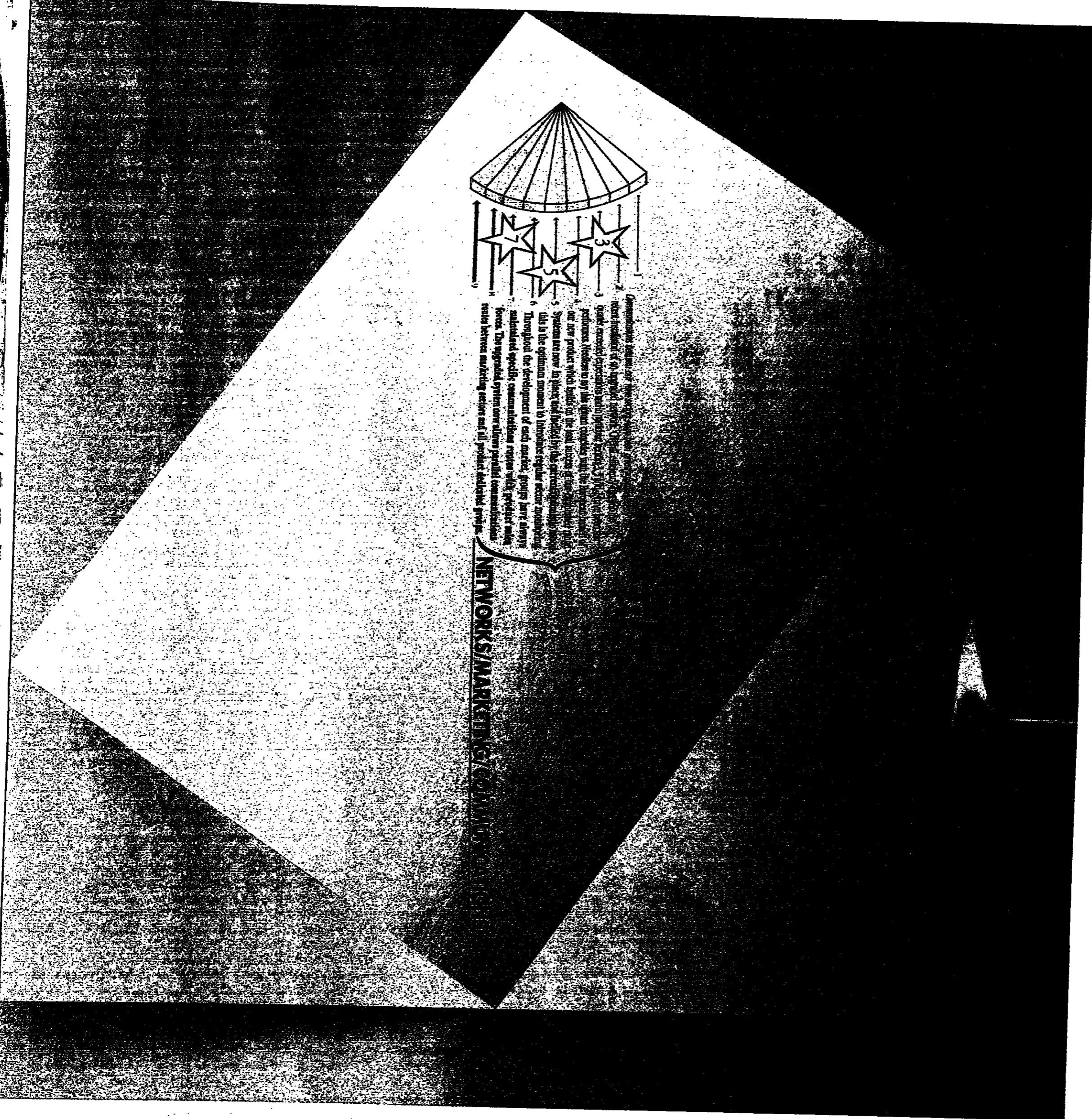
Most of Mr Perot's claims were based on information he had received from a former California policeman, Scott Barnes, a self-described private investigator. Several newspapers wrote extensively yesterday about Mr Barnes's past and pointed out that he was once convicted for illegal tapping and that he is notorious for trying to sell false information to the press.

The Bush camp, although determined to protect itself from Mr Perot's charges, is disappointed at the billionaire's self-inflicted wound. Its strategy for the last week of the campaign was built around the idea that Mr Perot would continue to make inroads into Mr Clinton's support. The dispute over the Perot allegations has also dominated the news, overshadowing Mr Bush's feisty attacks on Mr Clinton.

As the Perot camp and the Republicans continued to trade charges yesterday over the Texan's allegations that senior members of the Repub-



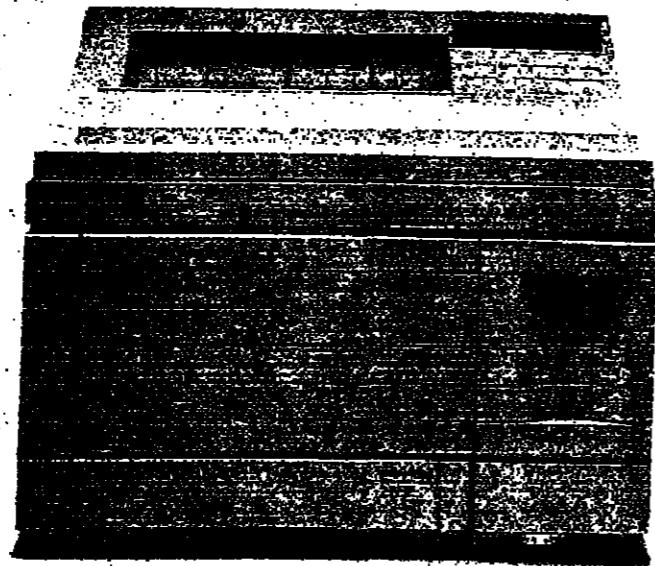
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Rabin vows to continue peace talks despite pressure from the right

## Israelis ring south Lebanon with fire

FROM ALI JASER IN SIDON  
AND RICHARD BRESTON  
IN JERUSALEM

A BELT of fire and armour surrounded south Lebanon yesterday as Israel retaliated with air and artillery fire for the second consecutive day against an attack that killed five soldiers two days ago.

Lebanese police inside the security zone confirmed that about 900 Israeli troops backed by tanks and armoured personnel carriers moved within striking distance of Shia villages to the north.

Earlier, Israeli warplanes went into action attacking bases in Lebanon's Bekaa Valley belonging to the pro-Iranian fundamentalist group Hezbollah. One woman was killed and two guerrillas were wounded according to Palestinian sources. Hezbollah was responsible for killing the soldiers on Sunday and the death yesterday of an Israeli youth in a rocket attack on the town of Kiryat Shmona. Elsewhere, three Israeli civilians were injured in two separate incidents in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

### The stakes are high. An Israeli incursion beyond the security zone could ignite more serious conflict

grant. Amid a growing public clamour by right-wingers urging the government to pull out of the talks in Washington, Mr Rabin vowed to defuse the tense situation and continue dialogue with the Arabs.

"We will continue the negotiations with Syria with the Palestinians, the Jordanians and Lebanese regardless of what happens in the (occupied) territories or in southern Lebanon," Mr Rabin said.

In spite of the arrival of Israeli armoured reinforcements near the Lebanese border, however, there was no sign that the Israelis were planning to escalate the confrontation by committing ground forces north of their self-declared security zone unless they were provoked.

"What we face now is two Khomeinist groups; the Hezbollah on one hand and the Hamas, a Palestinian fundamentalist movement, on the other hand," said the Israeli leader, referring to two of Israel's most ardent Muslim militant foes. "They accelerated their violence with the purpose to bring about the collapse of the negotiations. I am not going to play into their hands. We will continue the negotiations and cope with the violence that they created."

However, his attempts at restoring some sort of "calm" to the tense border area failed to satisfy opposition figures.

Yitzhak Shamir, the former Likud prime minister, blamed the government for the current wave of violence, and Rafael Eitan, the leader of the small right-wing Tzomet party and former chief of staff, demanded that the government pull out of the talks immediately.

What incensed many Israelis were the comments by Mowaffaq Alai, head of the Syrian delegation to the talks with Israel, whose government is accused of indirectly supporting Hezbollah and who defended the organisation's recent actions as legitimate resistance against Israeli occupying forces.

Mr Rabin, 70, won an

In Jerusalem yesterday, Yitzhak Rabin, the Israeli prime minister, struggled to restore calm to Israel, Lebanon and the occupied territories after a third day of violence, which claimed the life of a young Russian immigrant.

## Afghan fears grow as president goes

BY CHRISTOPHER THOMAS

AFTER four months in power, Afghanistan's President Rabbani is to step down today under an agreement for rotating the presidency among rival Mujahidin groups.

Power will pass to the leadership council, an uneasy alliance of ten rebel factions, which is expected to name another temporary president. The procedure is in effect keeping Afghanistan leaderless and ungoverned. There is no bureaucracy, no money, and precious little food.

Six months after seizing

backed regime of Dr Najibullah, the Mujahidin have been unable to put even a semblance of government in place in Kabul. There are growing fears in the region that the country is irreversibly on an ethnic line.

All the rebel groups intend

to meet soon in a "grand assembly" to try to agree on

the nature and timing of

elections, but that may be a

fanciful idea in a country run

by the gun. Pakistan, among

others, is watching developments with alarm, fearing for

its own stability.

In particular, he bemoaned

the rejection by Palestinians of

the outcome of the American presidential elections next

his offer to allow the 1.8

million Arab inhabitants of

the occupied territories to hold

elections this spring for an

administrative council. He

also ruled out any speedy

resolution to the dispute with

Syria over the Golan Heights.

"I don't expect rapid changes in position it takes time, it is

the Middle Eastern bazaar,"

he said.

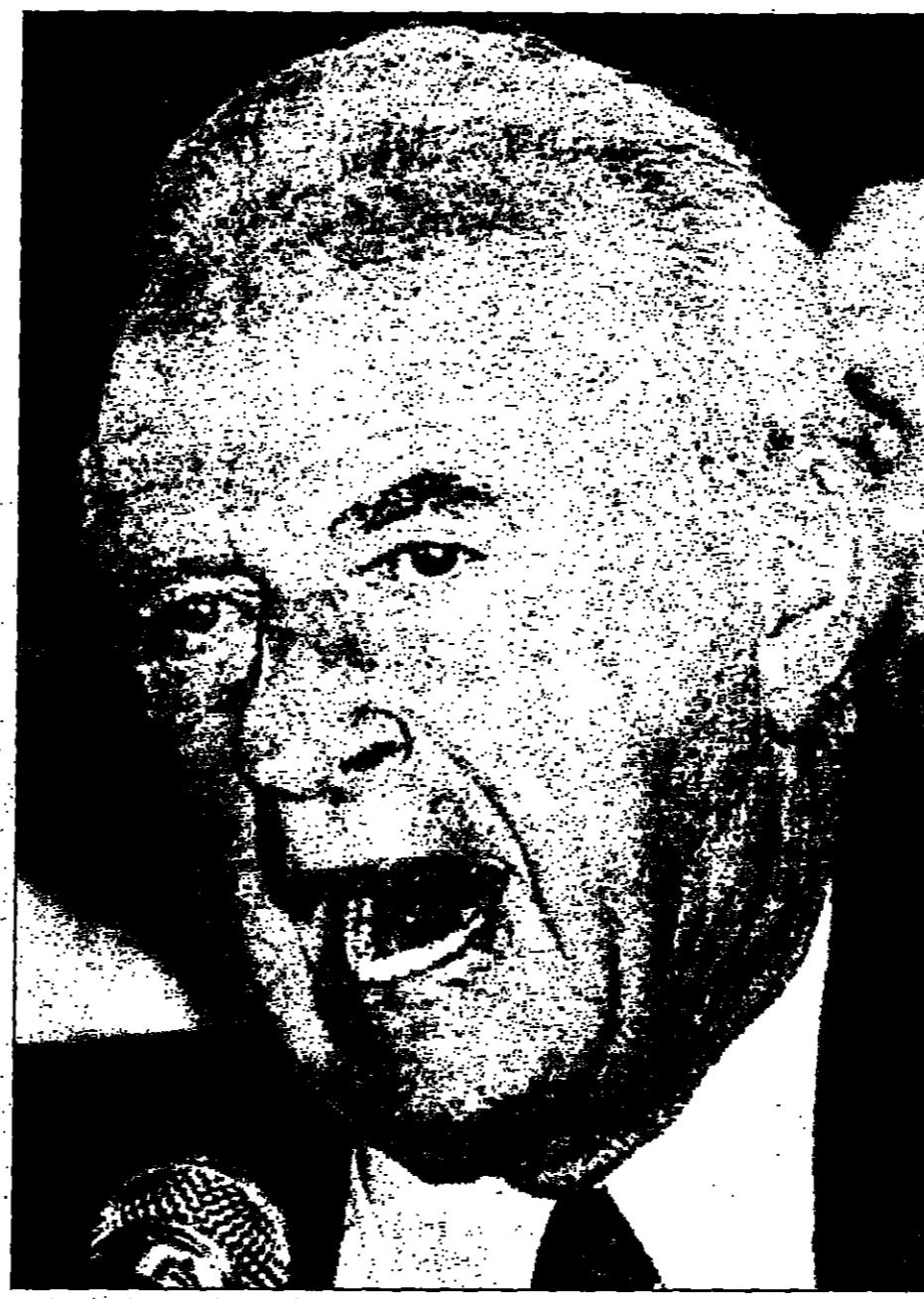
Although he refused to discuss

the outcome of the American

presidential elections next

week, he warned that a change of administration in Washington, co-sponsor of the peace talks, could delay progress at the negotiating table by months.

"If there is a change to Clinton there will be an interim of over two months and I don't know what will happen," said Mr Rabin, who has enjoyed close links to the Republican Party. "It can bring a prolongation of the negotiations."



Peace plea: as his warplanes attacked Palestinian positions in Lebanon, Yitzhak Rabin was vowing to defuse the tension and continue dialogue with the Arabs

## Peking will 'fight to finish' over Patten reform plan

FROM CATHERINE SAMPSON IN PEKING

LU PING, Peking's top negotiator on Hong Kong, has warned Chris Patten that if he goes it alone on democracy in the territory, China will fight him all the way and is prepared to break all the rules.

"The Chinese side has already decided to fight to the finish... If you do not play by the rules, we will not play by the rules, and then we will see what the outcome is," Mr Lu was quoted as saying in the Peking-backed *Wen Wei Po*, a newspaper published in Hong Kong.

Mr Lu accused Mr Patten of breaking the rules in the joint declaration, the 1984 agreement between Britain and China on the handing over of Hong Kong. He also said that Mr Patten had violated a secret agreement that there would be no further democratisation in Hong Kong.

He demanded that the correspondence between Britain and China on the subject of the 1995 elections should be published, alleging that in the letters Britain agreed not to extend democracy in Hong Kong. Mr Patten has already said that he has no objections to the publication of the correspondence, which he says does not constitute a commitment not to extend democracy.

China is intensifying the pressure on Mr Patten after the first attempt to bully him into submission last week failed. Mr Lu first attacked Mr Patten when the governor left Peking last week after two days of talks that left the two sides in stalemate on the issue of democracy.

According to *Wen Wei Po*, Mr Lu said that if Mr Patten went ahead with his proposals, he would cause "great turmoil". China, he said, would do nothing to stir up trouble in the territory, and would not do anything "against the interests of the people". The same phrase was used to justify the crackdown on pro-democracy demonstrations in 1989. Mr Lu also appeared to be threatening an end to talks, saying that if Mr Patten was not willing to talk about conver-

gence of the pre-1997 and post-1997 political systems, "then there is nothing to talk about". If Mr Patten faces such threats with his usual equanimity, he may still find worrying Mr Lu's ominous reference to the possibility of worse to come. "We use reason before force, first we use words," Mr Lu said.

Mr Patten said last week that during his visit to Peking he was treated with "unfailing courtesy". When he was safely back in Hong Kong, however, Mr Lu was scathing about the governor's proposals to democratised elections to Hong Kong's legislature in 1995. "How does this Conservative party chairman not distinguish even between direct and indirect elections?"

## Sumo idol to marry sex symbol

FROM AP IN TOKYO

JAPAN'S best loved sports hero Takahanada, 20, a sumo wrestling wonder, confirmed yesterday plans to wed the nation's sex symbol, Rie Miyazawa, 19, an actress whose collection of nude photos scandalised the country. The news sent the nation into giddy excitement.

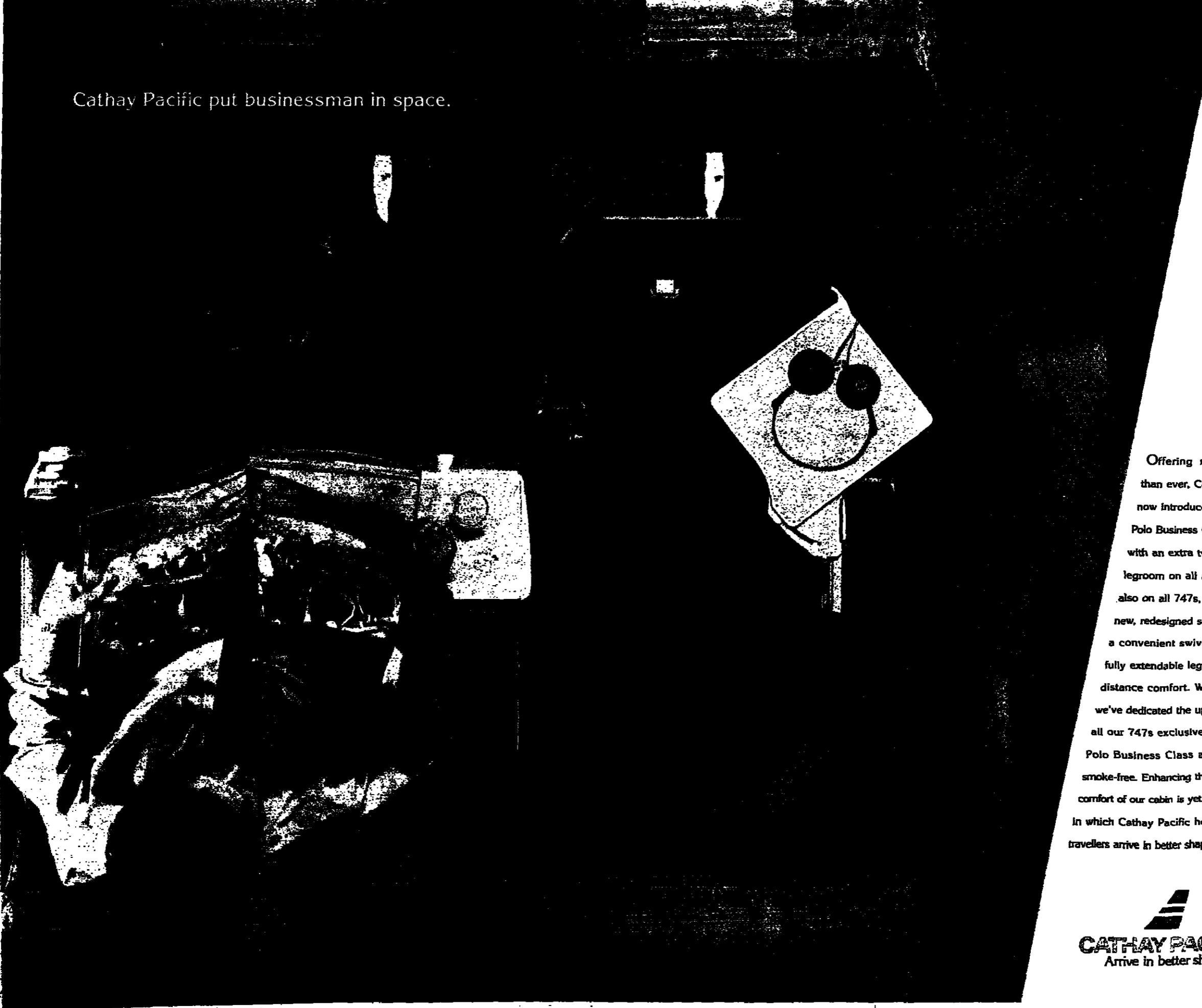
Miss Miyazawa told reporters that Takahanada, whose real name is Koji Hanada, had proposed by telephone, saying simply: "Let's get married."

The wrestler has become a male idol with a combination of good looks and skill that has put him among the top handful in Japan's national sport. The two are expected to marry next April.

Speaking of Takahanada last month, Miss Miyazawa said: "When I look at the sumo ring, I get that pitter-patter in my heart."

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White South African rugby administrators promised to level the playing field for all players. David Miller reports on the consequences of their failure

# Game is up for the Boks

**T**he withdrawal of sympathy and formal support from the current South African rugby union tour of France and England by the South African National Olympic Sports Congress (Nosc) is neither peccant nor pedantic. The action taken by Nosc and backed by the African National Congress (ANC), is a reluctant yet predictable response to an absence of goodwill by the still substantially white-backed South African governing body of rugby, Sarf.

The old white rugby power base, for so long an emotional platform of Afrikaner nationalism, has regarded the readmission to the international arena as too little a signal to a changed, racially-integrated future, too much a mere pardon for the past and for the continuation of intellectual insularity.

The tour has been seized as an escape hatch for a return to former sporting triumphalism, rather than an opportunity to meet the need for a re-assessment and new relationships. Some anti-apartheid organisations in Britain, Scandinavia and elsewhere will regard the statements by Nosc as a green light for fresh demonstrations against Afrikanerdom, with the prospect of serious disorder at South Africa's forthcoming matches

at Leicester, Bristol, Leeds and Twickenham: the first visit to England for 22 years.

The Rugby Football Union (RFU), for so long a mute applier for apartheid's evils — and thereby provocatively damaging in the past to Britain's other international sporting relationships — is understandably worried that rugby may again be cast as the black sheep, instead of creating a bridge towards professed brotherhood. It is worried with good reason.

The irony that anti-apartheid protagonists in London remain militant in their ideology, more so than many black South African liberals who bear the responsibility of trying to reach a harmonious relationship in their volatile mixed-race society. By talking of disruption, the British protesters are in the long run now likely to do more harm than help to the well-being of South Africa.

The time arrived two years ago when black Africa realised that what South Africa needed was social fire-fighters much more than supplies of fuel for a fire that threatened absolute destruction. No one realised this more than Muleki George, president of Nosc and initiator of this week's controversy.

Mr George, a former political prisoner on Robben Island, is fundamentally a

healer, not a destroyer. He is not a bitter man, his most surprising characteristic being moderation in spite of having a neck permanently disfigured by police "correction".

It was Mr George, in conjunction with Steve Tshwete, the sports negotiator for ANC, who led the move towards South African readmission to the international arena, to the ascendance of anti-apartheid leaders, including those at the United Nations. Mr George and Mr Tshwete convinced their ideological associates that South Africa had to return, or be left bankrupt in sport by the time one-man-one-vote was eventually achieved.

**Y**et Sarf cannot say it was not warned. When a delegation of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) visited Johannesburg and Cape Town last March to confirm details of South Africa's participation in the Olympic Games at Barcelona, Mr George stated that rugby must step in line with other integrated national governing bodies and create development programmes for non-white competitors.

He said: "Unless this is initiated, we shall stop the proposed New Zealand tour [in August] and others. Rugby is always telling us they need

tours to generate money, but

we've heard that too often. The former South African Rugby Board has plenty of money, but neither they nor Sarf are doing anything for development. Coaching is still predominantly for white children."

It is apparent, despite protests yesterday by Sarf, that

white South African rugby has grabbed the carrot of renewed tours and the prospect of hosting the 1995 World Cup, and ignored the stick. Rugby development programmes are apparently still conspicuous by their absence, even though the visiting Australian tour party in August gave coaching clinics at some townships.

The newly-created South African National Olympic Committee (Sanc), together with Nosc and with the approval of Nelson Mandela, has been prepared to accept an imbalance in the black-white proportional composition of some national teams, selected on current merits, in the interest of progress.

But rugby, under the allegedly multi-racial Sarf administration and the white flag of neutrality, has not thrown away the old Broederbond insignia: the Springbok emblem, and the white national anthem *Die Stem*, which was sung before the match against New Zealand in August to international consternation. Mr George and the ANC suspect they have been double-crossed.

That sense of betrayal has been magnified by the official statement of Sarf, devoid of

regret, claiming only that it is Nosc which has broken its word; that Sarf is not interested in "cosmetic development programmes".

These were the words not of a progressive non-racial governing body but of entrenched reactionary defensiveness.

**I**t is insufficient for white rugby apologists to claim that rugby is not like soccer, a *natural* game for blacks: a popular theme among rightist British sympathisers who whilst the old tune of politics have no place-in-sport. Playing rugby is also a matter of opportunity, or rather its absence, among South Africa's black majority.

Britain, so progressive in some of its administration in former colonial times, has for long been sadly immune to black South African sporting interests.

The RFU was yesterday

cautiously hedging its bets, related to take up any ideological position.

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The RFU was yesterday

## Memories of mayhem

**A**s contingency plans were being hurriedly drawn up by anti-apartheid protesters yesterday, memories were inevitably revived of the mayhem and bitterness that surrounded — and at times almost swamped — the last Springbok tour of Britain, during the winter of 1969-70.

By recent standards, many of the schemes planned and executed by Peter Hain and his Stop-the-70-Tour committee seem more like good-natured schoolboy pranks than serious statements of militant outrage. They poured liquid lead into the keyholes of the tourists' bedroom doors to stop them emerging on match days and let down the team-coach tyres.

Yet Mr Hain, now Labour MP for Neath, was then a national executive member of the Young Liberals, recalls how the protests mounted at all 25 matches on the tour not only made him "public enemy number one" but proved to be the turning-point in the whole question of South Africa's sporting relations with the rest of the world.

The number of spectators who watched the visitors' grand finale against the Barbarians at Twickenham had to be reduced by 25,000 and the whole North Stand closed to combat a big demonstration, but the tour was completed.

So did the campaign fail? "Not at all," Mr Hain says. "The tour in our life was always intended to refer to the 1970 South African cricket tour, which was duly

cancelled. In fact, no South Africa's national side in any sport has come to Britain since that rugby tour in 1969-70.

"On the eve of the tour, Dame Constance, the man in charge of all South African rugby, said that no black player would ever play in his side. Immediately after getting home, he recognised that these were going to have to be changes — although it took a long time for them to happen."

"Certainly, we did get some things like blocking the bus," Mr Hain says. "The situation

was extremely bad the day of the Twickenham game and the other dates are also hooked up, but I will be with the protesters again," he says.

"There is no settlement of differences and the 1992 tour does proceed without the sanction of the National Olympic Sports Congress in South Africa. I would like the demonstration organisers have anything to do with the Stop-the-70-Tour committee? 'No, I don't think so,' Mr Hain says. 'The situation



is so completely different this time. Then, apartheid was getting worse, and worse almost every week today, it is more a case of feeling betrayed. Many of the things we did would not be necessary this time."

Meanwhile the Anti-Apartheid Movement is making plans for protests at the four grounds. "We will certainly be organising some kind of march on Twickenham but we cannot reveal any details until we have met with police officials there tomorrow," Claire McMaster, campaign organiser, said yesterday.

**WILLIAM GREAVES**

**T**he leaping springbok has been a symbol of the South African national rugby team since 1903 when the side felt underprivileged beside a touring English team with their lions and Union Jacks.

It brought the first South African side to England in 1906 the emblem was embroidered on their green and gold jerseys (derived from the old boys' colours of Bishops Diocesan School in the Cape, where rugby was first played in the country). The press dubbed the team the Springboks and they have been called that ever since.

Five teams have been called Springboks since then, though since the Rugby Board was smart enough to copyright the leaping version, the other springboks had to make do with a stumbling horse.

The first tour did not officially begin until the National Party came to power in 1948, the springbok name can be said to have predated the 1970 tour. After the second world war the badge of the black rugby players, under the banner of the SA Rugby Union, was the protea, the flower emblem of the country, flanked by springbok heads. When apartheid in the sport was officially abandoned this year the joint SA Rugby Football Union adopted the leaping springbok and the protea as its symbol.

**MICHAEL HAMLYN**

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# With ideas to suit their office

Behind every great operator is a big office, and a bit of redecorating, says Rosie Millard

**R**obert Maxwell had a helicopter pad above his: the Commons has just spent £60,000 on new curtains for theirs, and the grand sum of £3 million is to be spent on renovating the House of Lords building that will contain Baroness Thatcher's. Many executives, it seems, find it impossible to operate without a large and splendid office; executive suites, more than cars, spouses or even packagers have today become the physical symbols of professional clout.

Offices, as any employee knows, signify power. They express the outward aspirations of the incumbent: places for hiring and firing, they are rooms which, more than anywhere else, enable behaviour on one's own terms.

The critical thing to do when moving into a new office is to redecorate it as importantly as you can, and as soon as possible. Mini-bars, bathrooms, pop-up projection

**'Why have an ordinary desk when you can have Winston Churchill's?'**

screens, huge conference tables: the executive position is today surrounded by often useless paraphernalia which does little more than simply reflect her, or more often his, standing in the company hierarchy.

Offices have not always carried this weight. A showcase in the Design Museum reveals that offices only came into their own at the turn of the century, when the introduction of the telegraph, telephone and typewriter meant the office became simply a "clearing house" for information organised on a purely practical scale, they resembled industrial plants more than power bases. Yet as Michael Korda, the author of *Power: How to Use It and How to Get It*, points out, it was not long until megalomania spread to the arrangement of the simple desk and chair. "Fantasy offices project power," Mr Korda says. "Look at Hitler's office. It was vast. Mussolini's office required a walk of a hundred yards across a marble floor just to get to the desk. In the 1930s, the head of MGM actually arranged his desk on a plinth; gazing up at it, the visitor would be confronted with an illuminated display of MGM's Oscars.

The other key element is individuality. If the boss has ordinary office furniture in a fairly normal-looking room, you know he or she is not really in the running as far as the power stakes go. "Anyone can have chrome-topped tables or Bauhaus chairs these days," Mr Korda says. "It comes with the deal. People who are truly powerful have their office designed to

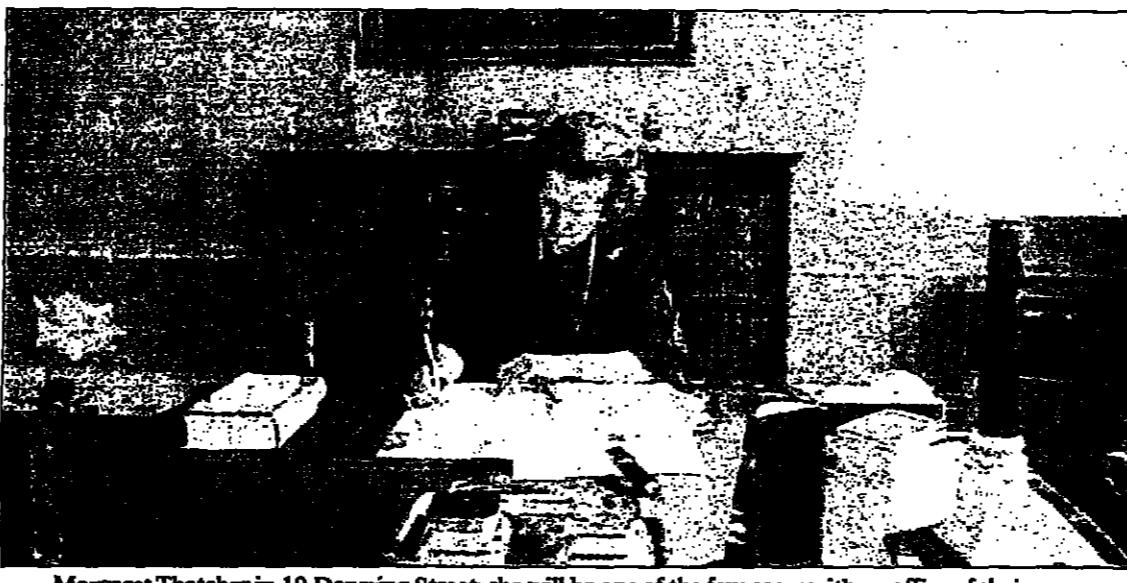


Orderly scene a hundred yards from the door: Mussolini's study at the Palazzo Venezia in Rome. Visitors, not the dictator, needed to know the time

make it clear they don't have to accept regular furniture." And so behind the door of the true power-broker you will find the Chippendale chairs, Grinling Gibbons paneling and "real" curtains surrounding authentic sash windows. As Mr Korda puts it: "Why have an ordinary desk when you can have Winston Churchill's?"

"My boss has an outer office, and an inner 'study' where all his important meetings take place," says Madeline Bell, who works at a London merchant bank. "The outer office is fairly normal, but his study is very daunting. It's all panelled with wood and Olde English brass fittings, with high-backed chairs, a huge desk and a phone that looks like something out of *Star Trek*. When you're asked in to the study, you know it's for one of two reasons — a rise, or the sack. It gives him added authority for any meeting."

"The office of a powerful person represents illusions of grandeur in a style they would like to live in," Mr Korda says. "Particularly with men, you find they indulge in the Dutch masters, or ship models of the 18th century that they would never get away with at home." Apparently, antiques, not the latest high-technology, are what is important for the company bigwig. It gives two critical messages: that the incumbent did not arrive yesterday, and that he or she is not about to go tomorrow. In these financially unsure times, an image of continuity is vital, according to Edward Cory, the chairman of the furniture makers Gordon Russell.



Margaret Thatcher in 10 Downing Street: she will be one of the few peers with an office of their own

"Tabling", rather than "desk", with solid-looking meeting tables, is now the thing for the inner sanctum. "It gives a perception of openness and stability in leadership," Mr Cory says.

Views are also important: note that the bosses in the London Television Centre lord it over spectacular views of the Thames as well as over several hundred employees. Granada TV's *This Morning*, which comes from the Albert Dock in Liverpool, enjoys offices on the banks of the Mersey. Yet the space from which to admire the ferry landing beside the Liver

Building is maintained for the person at the top. "A happy coincidence," insists Gareth Jones, the editor of *This Morning*. "It was just the way the cookie crumbled. I have no pretentiousness in my office apart from a bottle of claret in the cabinet."

The only place in the West where fantastical offices are not encouraged is in the home of fantasy itself, Hollywood. "Somewhere, huge offices don't look right in California when you look out of the window into a bunch of palm trees," Mr Korda says. Lady Thatcher, whose new office

necessitated a shift of personnel (she is one of the few peers to have an office of her own), did ask for a suite of offices but the House of Lords, where shortage of office space is an even bigger problem than in the Commons, was unable to meet her request. It remains to be seen how her office will be redecorated but Mr Korda is convinced we will see the incarnation of an image of power. "Mrs T won't want it to look like a grocer's shop. My guess is that she'll go for an early 19th-century English office. Kind of place the Duke of Wellington might have had."

What induces men to shave the hair off their faces every day? Vanity? Masochism? Peer pressure? A shaver and a non-shaver explain

## The bare-faced cheek of it all

**I** am asking why men shave, though it is a question seldom posed: enquiry is constantly being made of the bearded, on the other hand, as to why they grew the thing. The truth is, of course, that a beard is one of the very few things in life which may be acquired by doing absolutely nothing: one does not grow a beard, one simply gives up the unequal struggle of keeping it at bay.

**T**he time thus saved (139 days of one's life, some even more canonically bored statistician has computed) may be productively employed in worrying about the onset of baldness, and whether or not one is going to invest in someone else's dead hair to cover up the gaps. The beard is then kept trim, rather in the manner of one's hair or one's lawn — neither of which is razed back to nothingness at the first stirrings of life.

So why do men shave? I think the answer has nothing to do with a desire to dissociate themselves from their primitive forbears, nor does the act betray an inverted Samson complex. It is simply about peer pressure: nearly all men shave because nearly all men shave — just as most Victorian gentlemen sported elaborate facial growths because most Victorian gentlemen did just that.

The only time in recent memory when a swing back seemed a possibility was when Paul McCartney appeared with a full set just before the break-up of the Beatles: beards were all over the place for a while, but these days no public figure has that sort of clout. If



Razor question: hirsute Joseph Connolly (left) and the fresh-faced Robert Crampton

the Prince of Wales grew a beard, few would follow his example if John Major tried one on for size, the greybeard jokes would soon shock him into thinking again.

The only person in the world who could carry it off is Madonna. The socio-sexual ramifications would be truly awe-inspiring: but then, gender-bending isn't Madonna's exclusive domain — men do it every morning.

**JOSEPH CONNOLLY**

**W**hy do I shave? I shave because I don't like the consequences of my not shaving. In other words I don't like what would more properly be called the few clumps of facial hair that grow if I do not remove them. I stress my beard, because I have no objection (like Ross Perot) to beards in general, only a great many individual beards of which my own is my least favourite.

The idea that every man

over the age of 18 has a full, dense growth of beard is a myth. I am 28, and what I have, and by now, presumably, all I will ever have, is this two clumps covering an area about as big as a new ten pence piece on each side of my chin, a little tuft below my lower lip, a sparse smattering on my top lip, and then about 15 random hairs on either cheek. That's the lot. Not exactly George Michael is it?

But there is another, more widespread sort: the vain bearded, the one who professes he can't be bothered to shave, but actually spends more time

snipping, clipping, razoring and grooming than someone who simply whips it all off. Yet it's not even if his hypocrisy is even worthwhile, because the tinkered-around-with-beard generally looks worse than its unshaven cousin. And that's the second reason: I would always clean shave. The more you tinker, the worse it gets. You thin out the side bits, and end up with enormous cheeks, the medieval baron effect often favoured by trade union officials. You get rid of the moustache, and get the Andrei Salchov Amish far-

**ROBERT CRAMPTON**

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## In praise of womanwatching

**I** am always irritated when someone attacks glossy magazines as the malign promulgators of female vanity and all its attendant psychological ills. Both old-school feminists and male woman-haters simplistically believe that the many matters of appearance that absorb women are some sort of silly and dangerous false consciousness forced upon us by too much looking at magazines.

In fact, fashion and beauty magazines are only the tip of the iceberg of a submerged female culture that exists throughout Western societies. Women themselves, not the magazines, are the most acute and effective adjudicators upon each other's looks. With or without reference to magazines, we are the real enforcers of standards of beauty, fashion and fitness among our peers and colleagues, and even up and down the generations within the family.

Every woman also knows that dressing to pass muster with women friends is far more subtle, demanding and rewarding than dressing to please a man — easy by comparison.

Which of us can deny the running commentary that plays in our minds when we greet a friend? However dear she may be, the mental checklist must be run through before anything else is established: is she fatter or thinner? Healthy or peaky? How's her hair — and where did she get that jacket? No need for guilt about this, for as you embrace, you can be absolutely certain, the friend is running exactly the same check on you.

Some findings may be articulated ("Hey, you're looking great!", "You're so skinny!" or "Are you tired?"). Others are taboo until mentioned by the sufferer: this is particularly true of the disastrous haircut, which will be greeted by inward laughter on the part of the beholder, but converted to outward sympathy on the proper cue. If no one female mentions your new hairstyle, you can assume it's awful. If you lament its awfulness first, however, you can rely on a woman to remind you that hair grows and to say, nicely, that it isn't that bad anyway.

Male observers of these exchanges have always interpreted them as evidence of the treacherous bitchiness, jealousy and competitiveness of women, and these qualities are what fashion magazines are said to amplify and exploit in some massive commercial conspiracy.

What is never acknowledged is the constructive side of our visual awareness of each other: that it is also our way of watching over each other's health and well-being. A friend who gets too thin or too fat no longer provokes quiet envy or satisfaction in the beholder. She makes us worry: is she depressed, anorexic, bulimic, and why? If she's looking pale and tired, what's wrong?



**SARAH MOWER**

Is she hung over, overworking, suffering from PMT, or good Lord — pregnant? If the instant visual analysis is alarming, it will be followed by gentle probing and the application of skillful talking therapy. It's a social safety valve no one should underestimate.

Also not to be underestimated is our capacity for admiration of one another. Women are generous with compliments when friends and colleagues are looking good. We tend to rate our women friends as attractive, intelligent and fascinating, and genuinely can't understand it if men don't agree.

**A**ll of these complex strands of women's collective looks-consciousness weave together to create the environment in which fashion magazines can exist. To think that magazines can unwitting beauty slaves and fashion victims of their readers is vastly to underestimate our facility for sifting, analysing and discriminating.

It also ignores the way that women's magazines are a conduit for the most up-to-date information on medicine, psychology and self-help. Readers of women's magazines were among the first to learn that though images of slim models are implicated somewhere in the psychology of eating disorders, the root of the problem lies in something for which fashion cannot be blamed: feelings of powerlessness and anger that come from women's unequal position in society.

Every balanced woman knows there's a distinction to be drawn between what looks good in pictures, and what applies in real life. It is also true that the women we remember as the great dressers of all time are never the merely pretty or the preppily fashionable, but those who made something of themselves, became more like themselves and better at doing it as they got older. What the modern woman really aspires to is that proud and independent ability to see herself objectively and to be influenced by fashion only so far as it is useful for her own ends. Which is why glossy magazines are a tool for women's self-development and not an instrument of our oppression.

mer look. You shave off the chin hair, and you're a Dickensian bully. Why bother?

And the third reason? Well, I may be wrong, but I can't help feeling that most men grow beards because they've got something to hide, something unpleasant, such as no chin, a singular chin like Jimmy Hill's or more chins than nature intended. I wouldn't want to be the sort of guy who camouflaged imperfection with hair and besides, there's nothing much wrong with my chin. If there were, I'd clean shave and tough it out just the same. Given my growth, I wouldn't have much choice would I?

**ROBERT CRAMPTON**





## WAYS OF ESCAPE

The prime minister can still confound his enemies

Europe was the proximate cause of Margaret Thatcher's downfall. John Major appears bent on courting, quite gratuitously, a similar fate. Ranged though they now are on opposite sides of the Tory barricades, a parallel can already be drawn between two leaders who allowed the tenacious defence of principle to degenerate into stubborn adhesion to dogma.

Under pressure from a divided party, Baroness Thatcher lost sight of her original, coherent if unromantic, vision of a Europe of nation states co-operating where it served their interests. She instead fell back on a crude, single-minded and often emotional defence of British sovereignty, narrowly defined. Her party would not follow her into this bunker. Mr Major is showing signs of constructing one of his own.

Soon after taking office, Mr Major deliberately sought to put himself at a safe distance from his predecessor. He presented himself as a hard bargainer, but one who did not consider Europe to be hostile territory. His broad commitment to a "Britain at the heart of Europe" earned dividends at the Maastricht summit, even if, paradoxically, the principal gain lay in steering Britain clear of automatic involvement in European monetary union, the project at the heart of the Maastricht treaty. Yet so obsessed has the prime minister become with banking this triumph of damage-limitation, that he is beginning to act as though the Maastricht treaty were a convincing substitute for policy, and its ratification by the British Parliament his sole objective.

**B**ritish interests in Europe cannot be so narrowly defined. In important respects, Maastricht is an answer to what have become the wrong questions. The political union envisaged under Maastricht was born of the French determination to lock united Germany within the West. Times have changed since 1990. There is now a contingency of interest between East and West. Europe's economic and even political security requires the EC to play its part in tearing down the economic and political barriers it was so successful in erecting against the communist menace. With the ending of the Cold war, it has never been more true, in Palmerston's words, that Britain has no eternal allies, and no perpetual enemies.

Mr Major needs to explain what grounds he has in this transformed European continent, for believing that Maastricht is the right route to placing Britain at Europe's heart. More importantly, he needs to explain why the Europe that will be created under the Maastricht blueprint of "ever closer union" will be more peaceful, more prosperous, and more open to the post-communist world.

That means going back to basics. Maastricht, like any treaty, is no more than a means to an end. About the desirable end, the British are as near unanimous as democracies can ever be. British membership of the EC is not in question. Britain has many interests in common with other European countries, and needs to use the Community's machinery — with all the compromises this must involve — where these interests can be furthered by joint action.

The EC has prospered thanks to this essentially piecemeal, flexible approach to co-operation. Maastricht, however, breaks with this tradition, at least with regard to monetary union. It imposes time-limited steps towards this goal, to which governments will be treaty-bound to adhere. This "top down" approach is as undesirable as it seems likely to prove unrealistic. At the heart of the popular resistance to Maastricht in Europe is a healthy antipathy to being dragooned. That is why not even ratification by all 12 EC governments will end the Maastricht debate: every stage of its implementation will be a struggle in every country.

**I**n negotiating its terms, Mr Major had the right motives. He was determined to involve Britain fully in the kinds of co-operation which would protect Europe from the worst recrudescences of nationalism; and he wanted to set the EC on a broader membership. The project has misfired in most EC countries, creating a nationalist backlash against what is widely perceived as a European superstate in the making. The EC's poorer countries are demanding enormous subventions from its richer members as the price of monetary union, and the rules governing EMU — to which they will have to commit themselves on entry — will effectively exclude the still poorer states of eastern and southern Europe from EC membership.

At Birmingham, Mr Major acknowledged the strength of this popular revolt across Europe, but he remains unwilling to acknowledge its force in Britain, or the implications for his own policy. He seems not to recognise that the real challenge he confronts is not simply to get this treaty through Parliament, but to raise his eyes above the tactical battle and spell out convincingly why victory would be a victory for Britain.

Consider, by dismal contrast, the reasons the government has put forward, since December 1990, in support first of seeking a deal, then of ratification. The first is the familiar train-catching case. Britain must be part of the "construction of Europe", or be left behind by the other 11 EC states. It was because this argument had real force in 1990 that Mrs Thatcher lost the party leadership.

Since then, however, the doubts of the more rational British Eurosceptics about the

wisdom of Maastricht have become increasingly common ground, shared for a wide variety of reasons by most Danes, by nearly half the French electorate and by the majority of Germans, whose attachment to the market was seriously underestimated by their government. Enthusiasm for Maastricht will wane in the poorer EC countries if, as is likely, Germany leads a revolt against the cost of helping them to meet the criteria for the EMU that clearly many Germans do not even want.

There is thus no certainty that Britain would be alone with Denmark if it decided not to go ahead. The Danish "no" made publics across Europe think again. EC governments could hardly attempt to sweep aside a British rejection as they have Denmark's. They would be more likely to bring forward the review of the EC's machinery envisaged for 1996: renegotiation under another name. This might mean a multispeed Europe but it is at least reasonable to ask whether this is not a more natural, and more healthy, way for European cooperation to evolve than within the straitjacket of an over-ambitious treaty which may not be fully implemented.

The second argument, which Mr Major and Douglas Hurd have repeatedly emphasised since the Maastricht summit, is that the treaty would roll back the EC's centralising empire, restoring power to national governments. The magic formula, the treaty's subsidiarity clause, is now almost universally admitted to be worthless. Even aside from its ambiguity as to who decides where power should properly reside, the much vaunted restrictions on community power apply only to "areas which do not fall within its exclusive competence". Mr Major promises to use the British presidency to convert subsidiarity from a meaningless olive-branch for national susceptibilities into a working framework governing interpretation of the treaty. The vapid conclusions of this month's Birmingham summit hold out small hope that he will succeed.

British ministers have also made much of the EC's exclusion from the purely inter-governmental nature of co-operation in foreign and security policy, justice and home affairs; yet the treaty explicitly states that "the Commission shall be fully associated with the work" in both these areas. The government's claim that Brussels will be kept out would thus appear, at the least, to contravene the Trades Descriptions Act.

**T**he treaty's defenders are on some... what stronger ground when they contend that were Maastricht to be rejected, the EC's confusion and loss of purpose would jeopardise the success of its greatest co-operative endeavour, the opening of a single European market at the end of this year. That is a genuine risk; but so is the undermining of the single market if countries experience severe economic strains as they try to meet the targets for EMU, within the Maastricht deadline of 1999.

Even if Britain's opt-out from EMU can be maintained — which is likely in practice only if other EC countries abandon the goal — the opt-out clause cannot insulate it from a wave of protectionism brought on by EMU-related recession in the rest of the EC. If EMU is as ill-conceived as Britain believes, the argument for the treaty as a whole remains stubbornly elusive.

Mr Major genuinely believes that failure to ratify Maastricht would set back by years the widening of the EC. But unanimity is required for the admission of new members. France's hostility to a larger EC is second only to its stubborn defence of the lunacies of the common agricultural policy, and part of the attraction of Maastricht to the French government is that it raises the costs of entry.

Rich Sweden is already counting the cost of shadowing the ERM. For countries such as Poland, the disciplines of EMU would be bankrupting. Mr Major may yet become a convert to "variable geometry", an EC which offers different countries different levels of co-operation. If so, better before Britain commits itself to the Maastricht treaty than after the event.

If Mr Major is to re-establish his leadership and authority, which he has so firmly linked to Maastricht, he must engage strongly on these fronts. He has, however, retreated steadily from such engagement, even to the point of seeking refuge in the pathetic claim that if he fails to "deliver" on Maastricht his EC partners will never trust him, or Britain, again. This is ridiculous. If so of Britain, why not of Denmark?

Downing Street's answer is that the Danish government negotiated in good faith, and has suffered defeat at the hands of its electorate. That would be one way out of Mr Major's own dilemma. He has refused a referendum knowing that all opinion polls point to a British rejection of Maastricht. This is no basis on which to commit the country to the great constitutional changes involved in European political and economic union on Maastricht's terms. If he cannot put it to voters with complete confidence in a "yes" vote, he should question the wisdom of whipping it through Parliament.

Mr Major cannot just go on clutching at the treaty as though it were a paper raft. He should pursue the ratification of Maastricht only if he is prepared to defend it not in negative terms, not in terms of British opt-outs, but as an integral part of his vision for Europe. He recognises that Maastricht is flawed. He must quickly set out what the Edinburgh summit must achieve, both to reassure the Danes (without whose assent the treaty is legally dead) and to enable him to command the treaty wholeheartedly to the British people.

## JUDGES' QUALITIES

From Mr Jeffrey Gordon

Sir, Lord Goddard did not retire as Lord Chief Justice in 1949 as Sir Frederick Lawton states ("The bench is not a men's club", Law, October 20); it was in 1958 when Lord Parker took over.

As to lady barristers practising when the esteemed Fred went on the bench in 1961, although he claims not to remember others at the Bar he has apparently forgotten that Margaret Thatcher was a pupil in his chambers for part of that period.

Such doughty advocates as Audrey Jennings (now a metropolitan stipendiary magistrate) and Anne Curnow (subsequently a Treasury counsel at the Central Criminal Court and now a distinguished silk) were both actively practising.

Others also must surely have crossed his path, including Jean Southworth QC.

Yours faithfully,  
JEFFREY GORDON,  
Jeffrey Gordon & Co (solicitors),  
172 Lavender Hill, SW1.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

### Salvaging the wreckage from hospital closure proposals

From Professor June Clark, President of the Royal College of Nursing

Sir, Sir Bernard Tomlinson has proposed the closure or merger of some of London's most celebrated hospitals (reports and leading article, October 24), unleashing an entirely understandable tide of anger and concern.

It is worth recalling the historic reasons for the foundation of hospitals which form part of London's and the nation's heritage. Most were established by public benefactors to meet the needs of the capital's most deprived residents.

Centuries later, sadly, the inner city of London still has some of the worst areas of deprivation in the country. Londoners need facilities appropriate for their changing needs: better primary health care, better facilities for frail elderly people and for those suffering chronic and debilitating illness.

The Tomlinson report offers an historic opportunity to address those needs by expanding community-based facilities. Some of those facilities would continue to be offered in the hospital setting. Others would be offered to Londoners, for the first time, in local health centres and in their own homes. Nurses would have a key role in all settings, hence our view that London needs all its nurses.

The status quo is not an option. London is already suffering widespread, piecemeal cuts in both hospital and community services, and these will continue as the internal market in health leads purchasing authorities to question the economic justification for sending their residents up to the capital for treatment.

Unless a coherent pan-London plan for the future pattern of the capital's health services is developed and funded, there is little prospect of addressing the inner-city deprivation which so distressed the founding benefactors of our historic hospitals. Nor will it be possible to safeguard and develop the specialist expertise and excellence in clinical practice which has become a resource for the whole nation.

If the government chooses to treat Tomlinson simply as a cost-cutting exercise, the results for London will be disastrous.

Yours sincerely,  
JUNE CLARK,  
President,  
Royal College of Nursing,  
20 Cavendish Square, W1.

October 25.

From Dr Ian E. Smith and Dr Trevor J. Powles

Sir, Your support for Tomlinson's recommendation that the "Edwardian" Royal Marsden cancer hospital should move to "modern facilities" at the Charing Cross Hospital in Hammersmith is based on a false premise. Behind its attractive Victorian (not Edwardian) facade, the Royal Marsden has the most up-to-date, purpose-built facilities in the country for treating cancer.

Only ten days ago we opened a major new development of wards and operating theatres. In addition, we have a unique on-site link with our scientific colleagues in the Institute of

replace the hospitals it has closed.

The root of the problem is not inadequate demand, but inadequate resources. By creating an internal market and then underfunding the purchasing arm, the government has engineered a situation whereby centres of excellence have little chance of survival.

Tomlinson recognises this reality, but his recommendations should be seen as an exercise in damage limitation. To claim that they will improve standards of health care in London is dangerous nonsense.

Yours faithfully,  
ROBIN RUSSELL JONES,  
Royal Postgraduate Medical School,  
Hammersmith Hospital,  
Du Cane Road, W12.

October 25.

From Professor Peter Braude

Sir, Successful clinical research is not fostered in isolation. It requires the interaction of many disciplines, especially with basic non-clinical scientists such as biochemists, molecular biologists, physicists and the like, who are to be found on the teaching and research staff of medical schools and large university departments.

Resistance to a move of research units and academics out of a teaching centre such as London to district general hospitals arises because the critical mass of clinicians and scientists will be required to work together to spark off ideas and with the expertise to follow them through, would be difficult to create there.

Not all doctors are up in arms at Tomlinson. I welcome the proposal that Guy's once again merges with its progenitor hospital, St Thomas'. For obstetrics and gynaecology, a merger will improve and ease the teaching of medical students within our joint United Medical and Dental School (successfully merged for the past ten years) and promote provision of better obstetric and women's health care facilities for the residents of south and central London.

It will also foster strongly our objective to improve research in obstetrics and gynaecology, which will benefit women nationally.

Yours etc.,  
PETER BRAUDE,

Department of Obstetrics and

Gynaecology,

St Thomas' Hospital,

Lambeth Palace Road, SE1.

October 25.

From Dr Ian E. Smith and Dr Trevor J. Powles

Sir, Your support for Tomlinson's recommendation that the "Edwardian" Royal Marsden cancer hospital should move to "modern facilities" at the Charing Cross Hospital in Hammersmith is based on a false premise. Behind its attractive Victorian (not Edwardian) facade, the Royal Marsden has the most up-to-date, purpose-built facilities in the country for treating cancer.

Only ten days ago we opened a major new development of wards and operating theatres. In addition, we have a unique on-site link with our scientific colleagues in the Institute of

Cancer Research next door in the Fulham Road which, together with our facilities at Sutton in Surrey, makes us probably the largest comprehensive cancer centre in Europe.

The demand for our clinical services is overwhelming, and with improved efficiency and the dedication and commitment of our staff we intend to expand these services within the facilities and budget which we already have.

How can it make sense to disrupt and break this up and spend enormous sums moving us to Charing Cross, a hospital which is under threat in the market place, in a building 20 years old?

Our job is to beat cancer. We believe we can do this best with the modern facilities and dedicated staff which we already have. Any move at this stage would, in our opinion, be disastrous.

Yours faithfully,  
IAN E. SMITH,  
TREVOR J. POWLES  
(Consultant physicians),  
The Royal Marsden Hospital,  
Fulham Road, SW3.  
October 25.

From Ms Jane Lee

Sir, The possible closure or merger of many of central London's hospitals will place tremendous pressure on the accident and emergency departments of surrounding hospitals.

Many of these have already been granted trust status on the basis that they will provide a better service to local people.

If the government acts on Tomlinson's recommendations, the reverse will be true.

Local people could well find it increasingly difficult to be treated at their local hospitals because many of the acute beds could be taken up by accident and emergency admissions from people who have previously used the services in central London.

Yours sincerely,

JANE LEE  
(Co-ordinator),  
Hospital Alert,  
51 Grove Road,  
Hounslow, Middlesex.

October 26.

From Sir Ralph Kilner Brown

Sir, Your leader on the Tomlinson report refers to 5,000 residents in the City of London. This figure is not only inaccurate (the true figure for five days out of seven is at least twice that) but fails to take into account the relevant population within the catchment area over a 24-hour span.

There may be 250,000 who spend their working hours within the catchment area of St Bartholomew's Hospital. All those who are admitted during the day for treatment, whether casually or long-term, and who live outside the City or Islington or Holborn, presumably go into the category of those who occupy beds not properly the responsibility of that hospital. Such a statistical approach is ridiculous.

Only ten days ago we opened a major new development of wards and operating theatres. In addition, we have a unique on-site link with our scientific colleagues in the Institute of

immediate and considerable effect in reducing tobacco consumption by the young. The information forced the department to agree to a fuller report, which would be published.

We know that the Smees report has been on Mrs Bottomley's desk for almost four weeks, yet it will not be published until — yes — the same day as the select committee meeting. Will the members of the committee have read it by that time?

Yours faithfully,

NEIL PRIDE,

President, British Thoracic Society,

1 St Andrews Place, NW1.

October 27.

Coming of age

From the Reverend B. Koschland

Sir, At the age of 18 a person is not "eighteen" by a solicitor, judge, MP or the like.

Similarly a boy is not declared "bar mitzvahed" by the Rabbi (Weekend, "Rites of Passage", October 24). One becomes Bar mitzvah at 13 just as one comes of age.

There also is no verb "to (be) bar mitzvahed" in English or Hebrew or anywhere else: a ceremony need never take place and yet a boy is Bar mitzvah (a girl Bat mitzvah at 12).

Yours faithfully,

B. KOSCHLAND,

23 Vincent Court,

Bell Lane,

Hendon, NW4.

October 25.







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The case for  
selling off  
The People

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New opera: a  
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Uefa bans  
Souness for  
five matches

**PROPERTY  
ON  
WEDNESDAY**  
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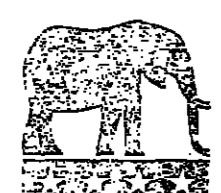
**BUSINESS  
TODAY**



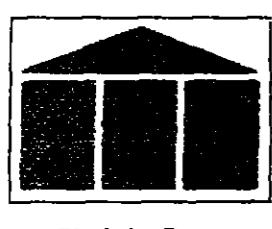
Smaller quoted  
companies have been  
thrown a lifeline by the  
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**FATE SEALED**

David James says Dan-  
air's fate was sealed  
when banks reined in  
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**BUSH BOOST**

Republican hopes for a  
George Bush victory  
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Blenheim Group  
profits grew after an  
increase in attendances  
at its exhibitions and  
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**THE POUND**

US dollar  
1.5755 (-0.0130)  
German mark  
2.4140 (-0.0231)  
Exchange index  
76.6 (-0.7)  
Bank of England official close (4pm)

**STOCK MARKET**

FT 30 share  
1978.5 (+2.3)  
FT-SE 100  
2669.8 (+8.2)  
New York Dow Jones  
3240.33 (-3.78)\*  
Tokyo Nikkei Avg  
17185.26 (+17.93)

**INTEREST RATES**

London: Bank Base: 8%  
3-month Lombard: 7%  
3-month sterling bills: 7%  
US: Prime Rate: 6%  
Federal Funds: 3%  
3-month Treasury Bills: 2.95-2.98%  
30-year bonds: 95-95-1%

**CURRENCIES**

London: New York:  
\$ 1.5755  
\$ 2.4140  
\$ 76.6  
\$ 100  
\$ 1.22587  
\$ 1.22587  
London: Foreign market close

**GOLD**

London Fixing:  
AM \$33.10 PM \$33.25  
Close \$33.00-28.40  
\$214.25-214.75  
New York: Comex \$ 338.75-339.25\*

**NORTH SEA OIL**

Brent (Nov) \$19.80/bbl (\$19.90)

**RETAIL PRICES**

RPI: 139.4 September (1987=100)  
\* Denotes midday trading price

**CBI points to first benefit of leaving ERM**

## Manufacturers expect surge in export orders

By ROSS TIEMAN

BRITISH manufacturers expect a strong surge in export orders arising from the withdrawal of sterling from the exchange-rate mechanism, but expect tougher outlook at home, says the CBI.

The sharpest rise in optimism on exports since 1987, recorded by the CBI's quarterly *Industrial Trends* survey, was the first sign that the government's enforced change of economic direction has started to benefit the economy.

The survey, covering companies responsible for half of Britain's manufactured exports, found 35 per cent of firms were more optimistic about overseas sales prospects in the coming year. Only 15 per cent thought exporting would be harder, even though

Manufacturing confidence has been boosted by the brightest outlook for exports since 1987

linked to the American dollar. In Europe, with an exchange rate of DM2.40 to the pound, he said: "We ought to be capable of taking market share, provided we don't throw it away again with increased costs."

The survey also provided evidence that inflation poses no danger at present. During the past quarter, more firms cut prices than at any time since the 1950s, and the downward trend is set to continue. But the findings, from 1,308 companies, also confirmed that the recession has caused grave damage to business confidence.

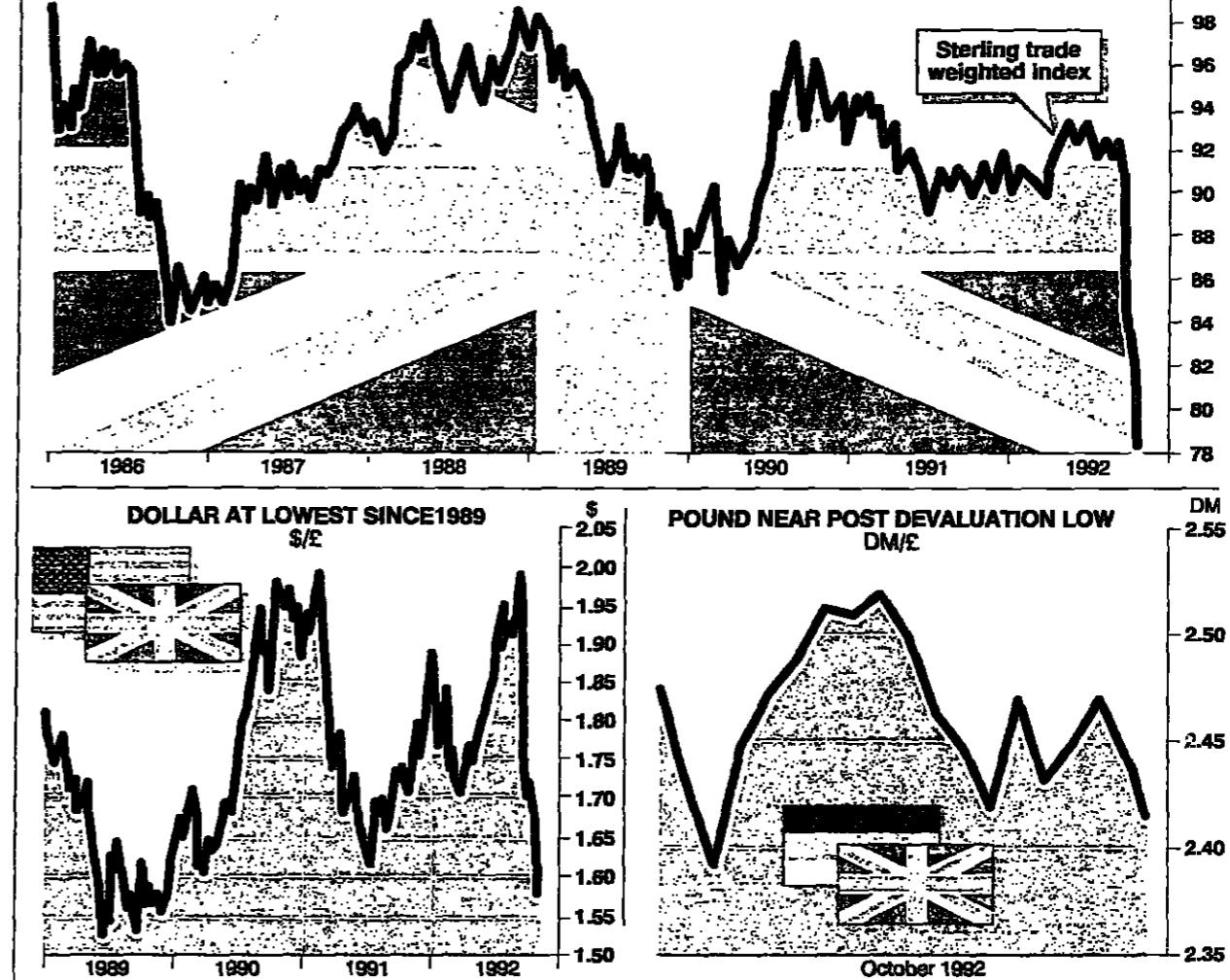
The fall in industrial output, which has continued unchecked for 11 quarters, appears to have accelerated in the latest four months after moderating during spring and summer. That has led to an increased rate of labour-shedding. An additional 75,000 manufacturing jobs are likely to go in the next three months, the CBI said. If it is right, the overall rate of job losses in the British economy, currently running at 30,000 a month, may rise.

Training and research spending has held up, but the survey showed investment is set to fall for the fourth year running. Sir David called for a further cut in interest rates because of a "continued lack of confidence both among business and consumers."

He said the government must now provide a "clear and coherent explanation of its economic strategy," including a commitment to maintain public spending on capital programmes while bearing down on current spending. The survey was completed on October 14, before the latest one-point fall in base rates.

The letter highlights the importance of the industry, which in 1991 had combined sales of more than £52 billion and employed 1.5 million people. According to the authors, about 450,000 construction workers have already

**EXPORT PROSPECTS BRIGHTER AS STERLING CONTINUES TO SLIDE**



## Building leaders urge Lamont to act

By OUR INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

LEADERS of Britain's construction industry have joined forces to send an open letter to Norman Lamont, the Chancellor, calling for urgent measures to halt the collapse of their businesses.

In an unprecedented alliance, five industry bodies and seven professional institutes have put their names to a joint warning that the prolonged weakness in the domestic construction market is now damaging the industry's ability to export services and products, or respond to any upturn.

They urge the government to maintain capital investment programmes, to free local authorities to invest money raised from council house

sales in new capital projects, and to permanently abolish stamp duty on house sales.

The letter to Mr Lamont is signed by Sir Brian Hill of the Construction Industry Employers Council, representing construction firms and building material manufacturers, and Ian Dixon, whose Construction Industries Council speaks for chartered bodies representing surveyors, architects and engineers.

The letter highlights the importance of the industry, which in 1991 had combined sales of more than £52 billion and employed 1.5 million people. According to the authors, about 450,000 construction workers have already

lost their jobs since 1989. Yet unemployment and insolvencies continue to rise alarmingly.

The authors said the industry was suffering massive cuts in training programmes, and that design and management teams built up over years are being broken up.

They added that local authority receipts from council house sales should be made available, not just to build new homes, but to help housing associations buy repossessed homes for homeless families. This, they believe, would help to arrest the decline in house prices by helping to mop up surplus properties on the market.

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## Maxwell pensions fed on 'inferior assets'

By OUR CITY STAFF

EMPLOYEE pension funds in the late Robert Maxwell's media empire appear to have been used as a dumping ground for inferior assets owned by his private companies, a parliamentary committee was told yesterday.

Only two of the 20 properties owned by the pension funds were suitable investments, the liquidator to Robert Maxwell's fund management firm told the Parliamentary Social Security Select Committee's enquiry into pensions. The rest, bought from private Maxwell companies, ranged from a sports field to a staff canteen and wasteland, said Neil Cooper, liquidator of Bishopsgate Investment Management, which managed the Maxwell pensions according to Mr Cooper.

A Lehman spokeswoman said: "We strongly deny any allegations that Lehman had any knowledge that pension fund assets were misappropriated. We engaged in bona fide transactions." Credit Suisse was unavailable for comment.

In an effort to get money back for pensioners left out of

## LMX syndicate loses £54m on storms

By JONATHAN PRYNN, INSURANCE CORRESPONDENT

ANOTHER group of Lloyd's names has fallen victim to the infamous LMX reinsurance spiral, which has cost the market more than £1 billion.

Agents representing the 1,743 names on syndicate 745 in 1990 were yesterday told that losses resulting from the European storms of January 1990 would total about £4 million, or £31,000 per name.

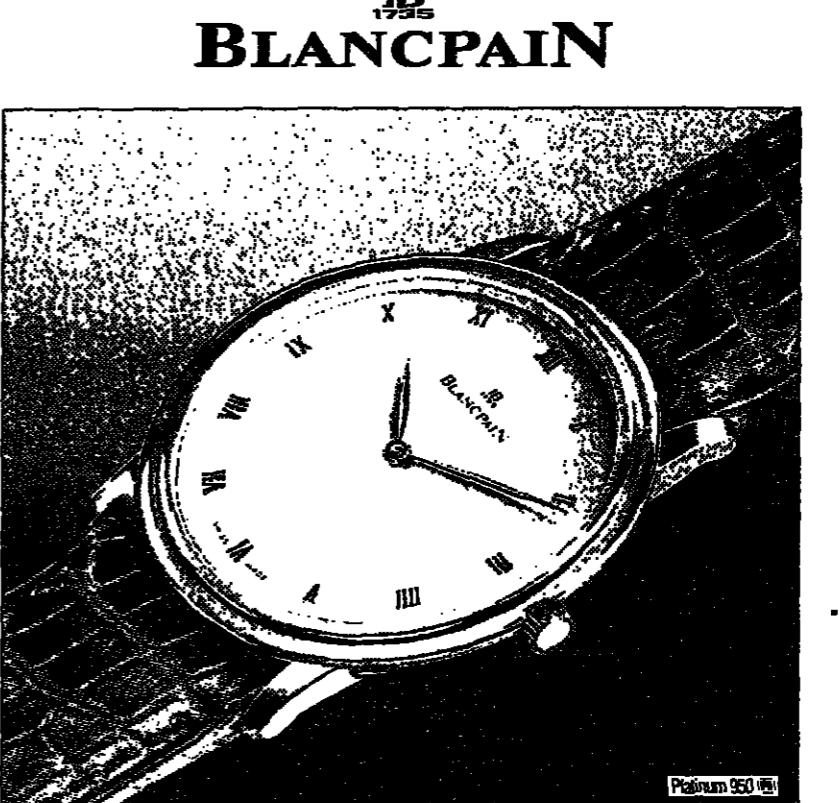
The syndicate was a leading player in the LMX excess of loss market, which offered reinsurance to other syndicates at Lloyd's. The string of natural and man-made catastrophes between 1987 and 1990 meant that specialist LMX syndicates were exposed to exceptionally heavy losses.

The announcement of the loss at syndicate 745, managed by KPH Underwriting

Agencies, follows a review of a much lower estimate of the loss. The size and late development of the loss means the 1990 year of account will almost certainly have to be left open.

David King, the syndicate's underwriter in 1990, has taken early retirement and has been replaced by his deputy, Andrew Elliot. Mr King was paid a salary of £150,000 and had a pension contribution of £20,000 in 1990.

The loss at 745 is likely to be mirrored by deteriorations at other syndicates and insurance companies involved in the LMX spiral in 1990 and could lead to an increase in the estimate for the market loss for that year, which already stands at £1 billion. The market made a £2 billion loss in 1989.



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The ultra-slim watch

## Private miners set sights on British Coal

By PATRICIA TEHAN



Hotson: break-up proposal

PRIVATE mining groups and miners are eyeing up the 31 collieries scheduled for closure by British Coal, considering ways to take some over and run them at a profit.

Malcolm Edwards, British Coal's former commercial director, was the first to make a move, revealing he is heading a consortium to try to lease four pits in South Yorkshire. RJB Mining and Ryan Group, two of Britain's leading private mining groups, have also shown interest.

Although the government has made clear its plans to discourage miners from gambling their redundancy money on attempts to take over their mines, some are already attempting to do so.

Jim Parker, managing di-

offering "legal and financial expertise" on a consultancy basis. Monktonhall ceased production in 1987, but was maintained by British Coal until the consortium took over the lease. Mr Parker said he would also be interested in getting involved in consortia bidding to take over leases.

Under Mr Edwards' plan, Brian Nichols Associates, of Australia, would operate the mines. The consortium is looking at Markham Main, Hatfield Colliery, the Bentley "super pit", and Rossington. All but Markham Main are covered by the government's moratorium on pit closures. Mr Edwards has also applied to British Coal to lease and reopen Markham Main.

RJB Mining, the open-cast

coal producer, has put a plan to the government and British

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## Bridport maintains dividend

By MARTIN WALLER  
DEPUTY CITY EDITOR

BRIDPORT-GUNDRY, the nets and rope maker, held the fall in pre-tax profits at £34,000, to £751,000, in the year to end-July. Last time, the company benefited from sales of £5 million-worth of camouflage netting during the Gulf war. A final dividend of 2.6p maintains the total payout at 4.1p.

Patrick Darley, chairman, said the company had withdrawn from the American fishing industry and rationalised net-making in Britain. It expects to cut the proportion of sales to the fishing sector from more than 40 per cent to less than 15 per cent by the end of this financial year. The group is concentrating on sutures, aviation and defence.

Mr Darley said a high percentage of the company's products were exported, and lower exchange rates were welcome.

Historically, the first half of the year was poor, he said, and this trend would be accentuated by restructuring, but the benefits would flow through into the second half and be reflected in results for the year as a whole.

## Competition will force more cuts at banks



Tough times: Hilmar Kopper, who says there must be no taboos in banking

BY NEIL BENNETT  
BANKING CORRESPONDENT

EUROPEAN banks will continue to shed staff and close branches as competition in the financial markets increases, according to the head of Deutsche Bank, one of Europe's most powerful banks.

Hilmar Kopper, Deutsche's chairman, also attacked his own and other governments for undermining international bank capital regulations. He blamed the pressure of these regulations for an international credit crunch.

Hilmar Kopper was giving the annual Gilbert Lecture at King's College, London, last night. He said that deregulation and international harmonisation would increase competition among banks. "More competition and lower margins are making intensive cost management imperative. There must be no taboos, either in branch banking or staffing. The rapid expansion of the last decade caused cost aspects to be sidelined and many banks to put on weight," he said.

He added that the changes would put increasing pressure on the 10,000 banks in Europe, but said that niches for smaller banks would continue to exist.

Like other bankers and financiers, he believes that there is a growing credit crunch facing borrowers, as banks compete for low risk lending and ignore higher risk proposals. He said that in the past four years American banks have increased government securities holdings by \$235 billion, but cut commercial lending by \$20 billion.

"Competition for the good risk is in full swing. Business volume is taking a back seat to the prudent calculation of earnings and risk," Hilmar Kopper said.

He criticised countries, including Germany, which help banks to meet capital requirements. "In Germany, the regional banks can draw on the equity of the financial groups. In his speech, he stressed that the German banks have influence rather than real power in the economy.

being helped with their problems through special state assistance.

"I regard equality of treatment on the procurement of capital as essential. Without progress here, there will ultimately be no competition in the proper sense of the free market economy," he said.

Hilmar Kopper tried to play down the common perception of the power of the German banks. He said that Deutsche Bank's share of the banking market is only 6 per cent, smaller than similar banks in other European countries, and the banks only hold 28 per cent of household savings and just 0.6 per cent of the equity of non-financial groups. In his speech, he stressed that the German banks have influence rather than real power in the economy.

On European developments, Hilmar Kopper repeated his view that there would be a two-speed approach to monetary union. "I cannot imagine European integration without the United Kingdom Europe without the political economy of the British parliamentary system, the British way of life and the London financial centre would be a torso," he said.

## Director buys AB offshoot

By OUR CITY STAFF

AB Electronic Products, the recession-hit components group in takeover talks with TT Group, a 6.4 per cent shareholder, is selling its Swansea Industrial Components business for £2.74 million.

The loss-making company is being sold to Thomas Roberts, who will resign from AB's board once the deal is complete. The sale is conditional on shareholder approval.

Swansea Industrial Components, which makes electrical wiring harnesses for the computer, automotive, domestic appliance and entertainment industries, made a loss of £1.3 million in the year to end-June, on a turnover of £12.4 million and net assets of £4.3 million. The company employs 600 people and operates from three sites in South Wales. As part of the deal, Mr Roberts is buying land in Swansea. AB will use the proceeds to cut debts.

## Levercrest shares fall on rescue rights issue

By PHILIP PANGALOS

SHARES in Levercrest tumbled from 35p to 19p after the maker of playground equipment and safety surfaces announced a change in direction as well as hefty losses and a deeply-discounted rescue rights issue.

Leslie and Anne Chier, who founded the company, are making way for new management and raising new capital.

The new company, floated on the USM in 1990 at 10p a share, is raising about £1.3 million through a 13-for-4 rights issue, at 10p a share. The issue is underwritten by County NatWest and institutions are understood to have taken up the shares.

The proceeds will go towards rationalisation and to reduce debts. Before the rights issue, the company breached some of its banking covenants, but directors do not anticipate that any further breaches of the borrowing limit will occur.

Mr Chier is to step down as chairman and joint managing director and will become a consultant. His wife will stay on the board, but will resign as joint managing director. Their 65 per cent stake will be diluted to about 21 per cent.

Tim Orrock will become chairman and a 19 per cent shareholder. Levercrest will become a holding company renamed Rousou and will move to a full listing and seek engineering acquisitions.

The fundraising should enable Levercrest to fulfil its potential," Mr Orrock said.

Levercrest made a pre-tax loss of £755,000 in the 15 month period to end-May, against a restated loss of £364,000 last time. Turnover stood at £5.46 million (£5.52 million). "The company suffered through a lack of financial controls and a lack of professional management," Mr Orrock added.

The losses are blamed mainly on a lack of demand during the recession and a "substantial" loss caused by the theft of raw materials and finished products from the company's factory. An investigation has been launched by the police and two former employees have been arrested. It is thought about £200,000 worth of stock went missing.

There is a £54,000 exceptional restructuring charge and a loss of 13.6p (5.9p) a share. The dividend is again being passed.

## GrandMet and Spanish sherry maker may link

INTERNATIONAL Distillers & Vintners, Grand Metropole's wines and spirits division, is considering a link and a share stake in Gonzalez Byass, producer of Tio Pepe sherry. Gonzalez was formed in 1835 by an alliance of the Gonzalez family, of Jerez in southern Spain, and the English Byass family, who then shipped coal and beer to Australia. The Gonzalez family bought out the 38 per cent Byass stake in 1988 after the company fought off takeovers from Seagram and Guinness.

Gonzalez and GrandMet said they were discussing a closer relationship, which would include an international distribution deal and involve IDV taking an equity stake. No further information would be made available until negotiations had been concluded. The companies have been linked before — Gonzalez used to supply sherry to GrandMet until the 1960s when IDV started producing its own.

## Pressac lifts profits

PRESSAC Holdings, the Nottingham manufacturer of automotive, telecommunications and lighting components, reported pre-tax profits of £1.84 million (£1.82 million) in the year to end-July. Turnover was £33.7 million (£34.5 million). Earnings per share were 4.7p (5.38p). An unchanged final dividend of 1.65p a share makes a total for the year of 2.4p (2.36p). About 170 jobs were lost during the year at a cost of £177,000 in redundancy payments. The number of employees has fallen by 670 since 1988.

## British Syphon ahead

IMPROVED margins and higher interest receipts helped British Syphon Industries, the industrial group, lift first-half profits 11.3 per cent, despite a 14 per cent decline in sales. Pre-tax profits, at the Cheshire company, climbed to £3.02 million in the six months to end-June, on sales down to £19.7 million. The balance sheet remains strong, with net cash of more than £30 million. Interest received rose to £1.5 million (£1.36 million). Earnings were 5.9p a share (5.3p). There is an interim dividend of 2p (2p).

## Xerox improves

XEROX Corp said third-quarter net income rose about 11 per cent and credited its document processing strategy and new products for the rise. The company earned \$135 million or \$1.18 a share, after pre-tax capital gains of \$444 million and restructuring provisions of the same amount related to its Crum and Forster insurance unit, on revenues of \$4.47 billion, compared with \$121 million or \$1.06 a share on revenues of \$4.28 billion.

## TI appoints Edwards

TI Group has confirmed the appointment of Tony Edwards, the director whose departure after just eight months has sparked reports of a boardroom row at Lucas Industries, a fellow engineering group. Mr Edwards will be chief executive of Dowty, the aerospace business that TI took over this year for £500 million. He quit as managing director at Lucas after he was passed over as chief executive.

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## Surprise rise in US growth leaves Wall Street sceptical

By COLIN NARROUGHEY  
ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

A SURPRISE rise in American growth was quickly hailed by President Bush as "very encouraging", but failed to convince Wall Street that the economy has really started to accelerate.

The commerce department figures on gross domestic product, issued yesterday, were the last important economic data before the election on November 3. They showed that GDP grew an annual 2.7 per cent in the third quarter, up sharply from the 1.5 per cent rise reported in the second quarter.

Importantly for Mr Bush's tarnished reputation on the economic front, the third quarter was much stronger than predicted and took the economy back above the output peak reached in the second quarter of 1990, recovering all the ground lost in the nine-month recession

■ After 18 months of lacklustre recovery the Bush administration sees signs of real revival

that followed. But Mr Bush's attempt to highlight that America had now experienced six consecutive quarters of growth left many economists unconvinced about the durability of the third-quarter pick-up. The pace of the recovery remains the slowest since the Depression of the thirties, with growth rates well below those of earlier rebounds.

Consumer confidence this month fell for the fourth straight month, with increasing concern about jobs, according to the latest Conference Board report. Its closely followed index fell to 53, down 4.3 points from September. Of crucial importance to the

## Payout risk drives GM shares lower

From PHILIP ROBINSON IN NEW YORK

WALL Street raised the spectre of a further dividend cut at General Motors yesterday after the abrupt departure of Robert Stempel, the chairman, and fresh estimates that 23 per cent of GM's North American workforce is to be shed to cut costs.

GM shares fell \$1.25 to \$33, at which level they yield 4.7 percent. Maryann Keller, author of a book on GM and an analyst with Furman Selz, the stockbroker, said the yield was so high because "the dividend is at risk". GM cut its payout 46 percent 20 months ago, when losses topped \$2 billion. To maintain its annual rate of \$1.60 costs \$1.1 billion. GM third quarter losses of \$845 million are expected tomorrow.

After Mr Stempel's departure, analysts expect a swift and savage programme of cost cutting. Harley Shaiken, industry expert at the University

of California, San Diego, forecasts 85,000 North American shop floor and office job cuts, out of a workforce of 370,000. That is more than 10,000 more than were due to go in the re-organisation plan unveiled by Mr Stempel almost a year ago. Factory closures are likely to be much higher than the 21 announced under the Stempel plan.

The GM board meeting on Monday is expected to seek the resignations of at least six of Mr Stempel's close lieutenants and elect a new chairman. From runner is John Smale, former chairman of Procter & Gamble and head of GM's executive committee. Other candidates include John Smith, GM president, and William Hoglund, the group's financial director.

Though Mr Stempel's retirement package is yet to be settled, pay experts say he will get at least \$1 million a year.

## Debt expected to attract buyers

By NEIL BENNETT, BANKING CORRESPONDENT

THE £1 billion auction of government debt in privatised companies is expected to be heavily oversubscribed after BT agreed to bid for at least £750 million of its own debt.

Barings, the merchant bank advising the Treasury on the auction, announced yesterday that the sale would go ahead as planned and that the deadline for companies to pre-register their interest is November 3. Only pre-registered companies will receive details of the auction. The final date for bids is the end of November, but the full timetable is expected to be published

its face value. Since the auction was announced, the fall in interest rates is estimated to have increased the value of the debt on offer at least 5 per cent. The government will sell £1 billion of the debt to the highest bidders. The remaining holdings are expected to be offered in future auctions.

The electricity companies' debt will be offered only to the buyers, but the auction of BT's debt will also be open to banks, brokers and institutions. BT has agreed to bid at least £750 million for its own debt, with a face value of about £600 million.

## Capital adequacy tests regulators

By A CORRESPONDENT

GLOBAL capital adequacy standards for banks and investment firms are provoking a thorny debate among international securities regulators, leading market supervisors said yesterday.

Opening the annual conference of the International Organisation of Securities Commissions, Andrew Large, chairman of the Securities and Investments Board, said he expected capital adequacy to be a tough issue. Commission members have been debating how to set common capital standards for banks and secu-



Large: difficult exercise

ries firms for three years. They are hoping for an agreement with world banking regulators at the Basle Committee of banking supervisors.

"This is a difficult exercise, but it is one of profound importance," Mr Large said.

He said banking and securities activities were becoming more and more, making co-ordinated standards more important.

Topics considered at the four-day London meeting will include market transparency, investor compensation and self-regulation.

## German slowdown forecast grows louder

By WOLFGANG MUNCHAU  
EUROPEAN BUSINESS CORRESPONDENT

THE west German economy will grow by only 0.5 per cent next year, according to the autumn report by the country's five leading economic research institutes. The slowdown in economic activity would affect government revenues during the next few years and scupper plans to cut the budget deficit, despite higher taxes and social contributions.

The gloomy outlook for the German economy comes as businesses are openly talking about recession, although the institutes' report refers merely to an economic downturn. It is also sceptical about the benefits of further tax increases to help finance unification, following a recent suggestion by Chancellor Helmut Kohl that he favours a tax rise from 1995 onwards.

The institutes forecast pan-German growth of 1 per cent next year. Pan-

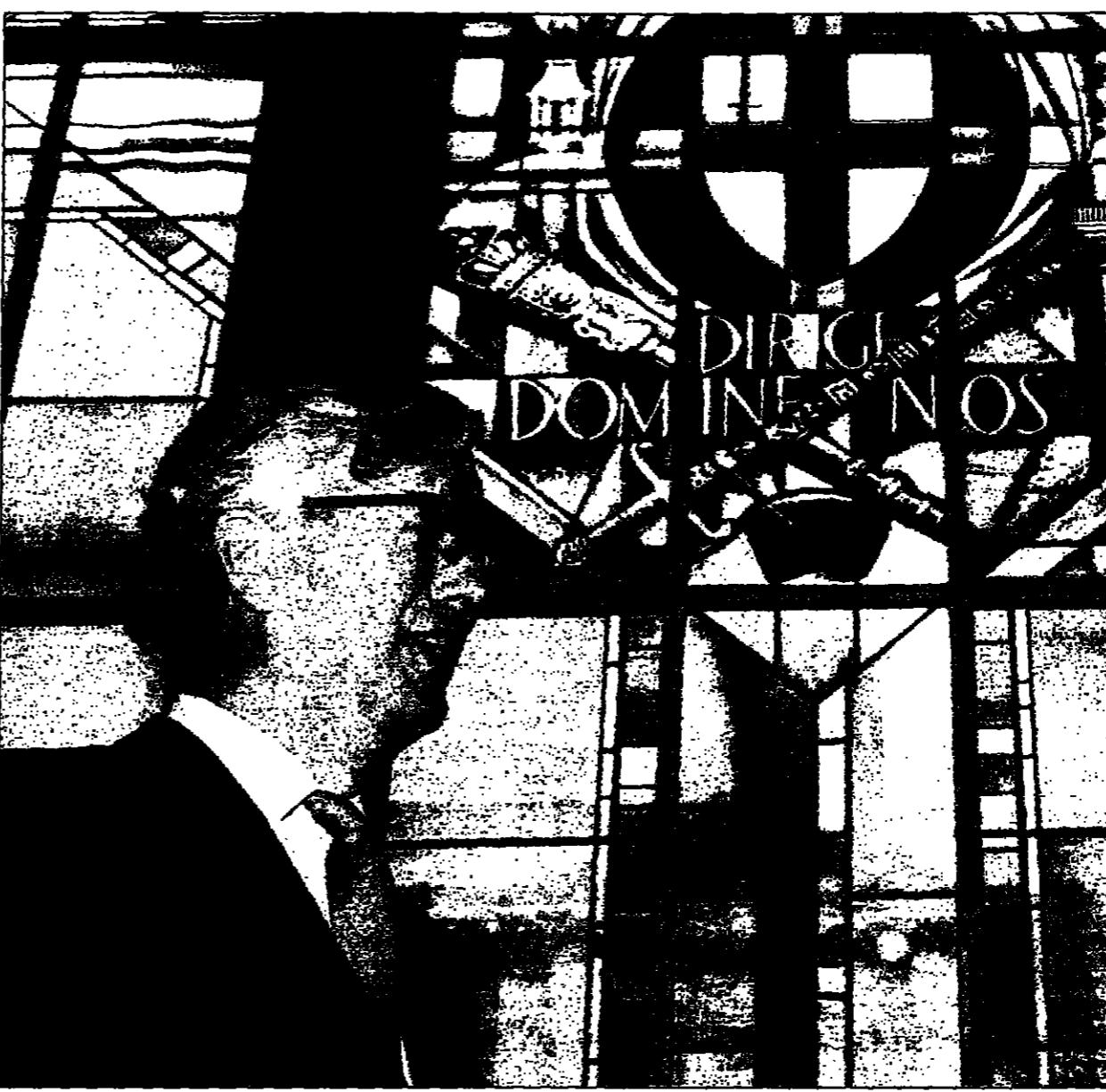
German inflation will this year peak at 5 percent, and fall to 4.5 percent next year. The institutes appear especially concerned about prospects for the east German economy. At the time of reunification, it was thought that it would take east Germany 15 years to catch up with the west at an average annual growth rate of 10 per cent. This year, the eastern German economy grew at only half that rate, and the institutes forecast that next year's figure will be no higher than 7 per cent. This year, about two-thirds of eastern Germany's gross national product is accounted for by transfers payments from the west, but that is expected to fall to about 50 per cent of GNP next year.

Heiner Flasbeck, head of economics at the DIW institute in Berlin, one of the five to help compile the report, gave a warning yesterday that wage rates should be held below 4 per cent in order to avoid another rise in inflation. The institutes also advised the Bundesbank to relax

monetary policy marginally by increasing the target range for expansion in the money supply. The present range for growth in M3, a measure of broad money supply, should rise from between 3.5 and 5.5 per cent to a central rate of about 7 per cent. This would allow for an inflation rate of about 3 per cent.

The report denied that a 7 per cent growth rate of M3 would involve "giving up a stability-oriented monetary policy. Rather we should temporarily make allowances for the strong administratively determined price increases in east Germany". In September, M3 was up an 9.1 per cent on an annualised basis.

Meanwhile, Otmar Issing, a Bundesbank director, said on German television that the Bundesbank had "room to manoeuvre" in its money market operations, indicating a possible easing of monetary policy.



Looking for recovery: Roger Gibbs of Wellcome Trust believes UK stocks are the best long-term investment

## BA plans big pay cuts at Gatwick

By HARVEY ELLIOTT  
AIR CORRESPONDENT

MORE than 1,200 British Airways staff at Gatwick have been told that they will have to accept pay cuts of up to 30 per cent if they want to work for the new scheduled airline based on the lingering runup of Dan-Air.

BA said that it will pay compensation for ending the existing contracts of employment and replacing them with new terms and conditions at a much lower rate. Union leaders are worried that the move could prove a "Trojan horse" and lead eventually to big cuts in pay for the entire British Airways workforce.

George Ryde, national secretary of the TGWU which represents more than 1,000 BA staff at Gatwick, said: "So far we have not seen the details and hope to meet management for detailed discussions later this week. We also want to talk to our own members and gauge their feelings before we do anything."

Almost 100 pilots are also employed by BA at Gatwick and have traditionally been paid the same as their colleagues at Heathrow. Now they have been told that they, together with more than 120 who will be joining the new airline will be paid around 10 per cent less than Dan-Air pilots and possibly as much as 30 per cent less than their existing pay rates.

British Airways has promised that there will be no compulsory redundancies among its own staff and that anyone who wants to join the new wholly-owned subsidiary operating from Gatwick will be paid "redundancy" and then re-hired at the new lower rates. Those who do not wish to take advantage of the offer may either take early retirement or move to Heathrow.

BA took over Dan-Air last Friday for a nominal payment of £1 and said it would be closing down the charter operation and retaining only around 400 of Dan-Air's 2,000 staff. The Office of Fair Trading is now investigating the take-over.

## Dan-Air fate sealed in August

By MARTIN WALLER, DEPUTY CITY EDITOR

THE fate of Dan-Air was sealed in August, when the banks reined in the company's borrowing limits to match their private assessment of its break-up value, according to David James, chairman of Davies & Newman.

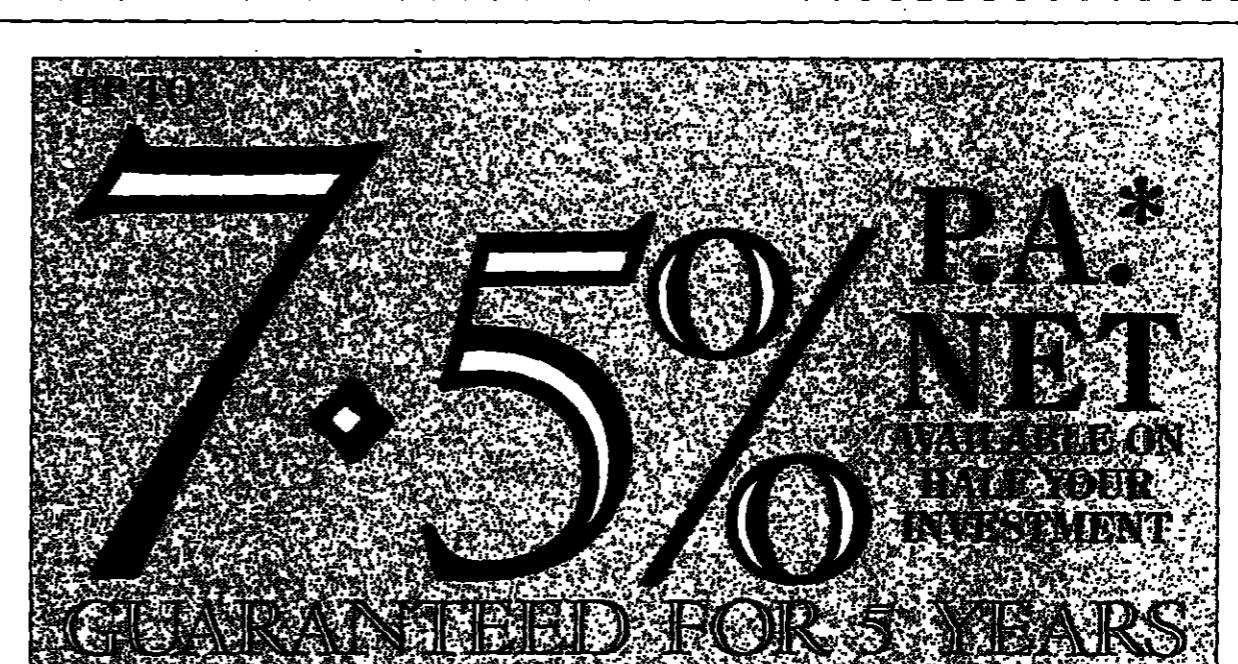
The banks brought in Touche Ross, the accountant, to produce a break-up value estimate and as a consequence cut the company's borrowing ability to £17 million, he said.

From then on, as autumn approached when debts would rise, the survival of Davies & Newman, the holding company, hung on an alliance with nothing. Mr James said once it was clear they would receive no return whatever happened, and the only alternative was receivership, he had no choice by law but to safeguard creditors' interests.

The banks had secured loans outstanding of more than £22 million, and trade and other unsecured creditors were owed £43 million. All this last sum would have been lost

if the company went into receivership, he said. Davies & Newman had net assets after last year's refinancing of £40 million, but trading losses had cut this to £4 million. It faced a £23 million redundancy bill and £16 million would be lost on aircraft sales.

A further £1 million could be expected to flow out from this autumn's trading losses. All this gave the assets being sold a negative value of more than £20 million to BA once the new owner took control, at the earliest at the start of next year. Given the alternative of financial collapse for Davies & Newman, BA "had the company over a barrel" during the talks, he said.



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# Blenheim banks on French connection

**BLENHEIM** Group has always had a faint air of uncertainty hanging over it in the City as one of the few 1980s go-go people stocks that has not yet come to grief. So even the irrepressible Neville Buch, Blenheim's chairman, has had to concede that the past two years have had to be ones of quiet consolidation, in contrast to the previous half-decade of hectic expansion.

The City has had difficulty understanding how a hugely cash-generative vehicle was created by bolting together the previously disorganized and underestimated exhibitions industry. In addition, the acquisition programme has prompted the usual doubts over accounting policies and hefty earn-outs. Meanwhile, huge exhibitions that occur one year and then disappear play havoc with profits flow.

Blenheim's latest full-year figures to end-August, before the company changes its financial year-end to December, contain no real boost from acquisitions and confirm some of those doubts. While turnover is up in Britain and stable in America, profits in both areas are lower. As a result, France is left to make the progress that sent group pre-tax profits up 32 per cent to £37.3 million.

In Britain the big shows that offer lower margins for Blenheim have continued to perform well but the higher-margin events, such as software and jewellery, have been disproportionately hit by recession. In America, the non-recurrence of one big

show accounted for most of the profits fall, while in France, Blenheim benefited from Batimat, a huge construction exhibition where the aisles stretch 75 km, which chipped in £13 million of turnover.

Interest cover remains a comfortable seven times, but shares issued for earlier acquisitions held earnings per share growth to 15 per cent.

Derek Terrington, at Kleinwort Benson, is plumping for £50 million pre-tax this year, which puts the shares on little more than 14 times 1993 earnings. This is a long way from the stratospheric multiples Blenheim has enjoyed, but scope for progress still looks limited.

## Gencor

**GENCOR**, South Africa's second-largest mining group, paints a refreshingly honest, if not blunt, picture of its prospects and those of South Africa in the year ahead.

Inflation remains stubbornly high at 14.5 per cent, political clouds hang heavy, trading conditions are set to deteriorate for the third consecutive year and another decline in group net earnings is expected.

Hardly the most appealing forerunner to Gencor's London investment road-show on November 26, though investors can derive some comfort that net attributable profit in the year to end-August was only 10 per cent down at R1.26 billion (£260 million) and that the total dividend rises from 43 cents to 45 cents



The calm after the expansion storm: Neville Buch is guiding Blenheim through a period of consolidation

a share, covered 13 times by net cash earnings.

In February, it was Gencor's turn to raise money, and its R2 billion rights issue helped the group end its year with liquid resources of R2.4 billion — one of the stronger balance sheets among the world's resource groups.

Group assets are essentially South African and embrace gold, platinum, coal and a host of industrial interests. Abroad, Gencor holds a con-

trolling stake in the North Sea's Alba oil field; it is a significant investor in Trans-Atlantic Holdings, owns Ayrton Metals, the London platinum metals group, and has gold mining interests in Brazil and Australia.

Having trimmed costs and attended to improving profitability, Gencor has to await brighter world conditions before it can expect profits to advance. The shares trade on 9.4 times historic earnings.

backed by 12.7 per cent yield, and on evidence of a stronger South African economy, will serve investors well.

But in the short term, the uncertainty of political developments in South Africa will dog sentiment.

## Jupiter Tyndall

**PERSONALITY** cuts are alive and well in the City, judging by Jupiter Tyndall's

share capital. Mr Licht needs to attract funds of at least £400 million just to cover his costs before the golden halo and the options are even considered.

In his first two weeks, he pulled in three new clients and assets of £160 million, but it will undoubtedly be some time before Jupiter sees a clear profit from the acquisition.

Jupiter's interim results meanwhile are redundant of the late 1980s when acquisition accounting was all the rage and made meaningful comparisons impossible.

The group reported pre-tax profits of £1.16 million in the first half of the year, compared with only £95,000 for the first four months of 1991 before its merger with Tyndall Holdings. Earnings per share were 7.02p, a like-for-like rise of 74 per cent.

The increase is starting to consider the group has not generated any organic growth and its funds under management remain stuck at £1.3 billion.

Most of the extra profit has come from annual cost savings of £2 million after the closure of Tyndall's expensive computer systems, and its offices in the City.

Despite Jupiter's rate of growth, the shares languish at 106p — a deep discount to the sector. If Jupiter Tyndall makes £5 million this year, the company will stand on a price earnings ratio of less than eight.

They are unlikely to outperform until Mr Licht proves to the City that he is worth his weight in hellions.

## Recession hits Japan electronics industry

FROM ASSOCIATED PRESS IN TOKYO

JAPANESE electronics companies announced sharply lower half-year earnings yesterday as the industry struggled to cope with a prolonged slump.

Fujitsu, the world's second-largest computer maker, reported its first six-month loss and gave a warning that the "severe business environment" was continuing to worsen in Japan and overseas.

Other companies announced profit declines of between 35.5 per cent and 72 per cent.

Matsushita Electric Industrial Co., a leading consumer electronics group, said it would cut directors' salaries by 10 per cent for the rest of the fiscal year because of the severe business outlook.

"The worldwide recession continues to have a major impact on business confidence and on the ordering of large computer systems," a Fujitsu spokesman said.

"And the sluggish semiconductor market has meant a steep drop in prices."

Analysts said the next six months looked brighter because of stronger overseas demand for semiconductors and restructuring by Japanese makers.

Fujitsu said its consolidated net loss was Y19.2 billion (£99 million) during the April-September period, the first half of Japan's fiscal year. A year earlier, it posted a profit of Y19.3 billion. Sales rose 6.7 per cent to Y1.69 trillion.

## WORLD MARKETS

### Hong Kong pulls back 155 points

Hong Kong — Share prices rose sharply, winning back most of a 200-point drop caused by the new crisis in relations between the colony and China.

The benchmark Hang Seng index closed at 6,218.01, up 155.54 points, or 2.57 per cent, as investors appeared to discount the dispute with Peking over increased democracy in the colony and funding for the proposed Hong Kong airport. Simon Lam, senior analyst at Mansion House Securities, said: "Basically, people are discounting the squabble. Investors believe it can be solved with more senior level negotiations, so they are concentrating more on the fundamental economic outlook, which is good."

Turnover was down substantially from Monday.

□ Wall Street — Buying interest returned after the market was hit in mid-morning by

profit-taking that sapped gains initially won on news of a 2.7 per cent annual growth rate for third-quarter US gross domestic product. Stocks were also hurt earlier by news of a decline in consumer confidence in October.

The Dow Jones industrial average was up 3.24 at 3,247.35, while in the broad market advancing shares were ahead of declining shares by seven to six.

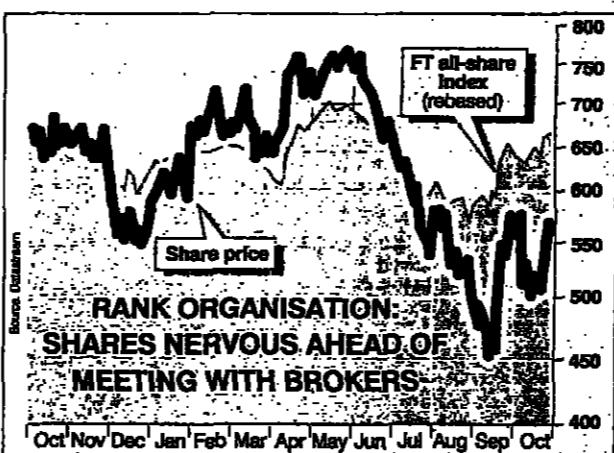
□ Tokyo — Shares shrugged off a fresh spate of poor corporate earnings results and closed moderately higher in a technical rebound. The Nikkei average was up 173.93 points, or 1.02 per cent, to 17,185.26, with about 150 million shares traded. The broader first section Topix index was up 8.83 points, or 0.69 per cent to 1,297.53.

□ Frankfurt — Comments from Ottmar Issing, the Bundesbank director, helped German shares claw back a substantial amount of ground lost early in the session. Dealers interpreted Herr Issing's remarks, made shortly before the close of floor trade, to mean the central bank saw room for a further cut in German interest rates. The DAX index limited the loss to 8.72 points to close at 1,533.77.

□ Sydney — Australian shares surrendered to bearish sentiment with the All Ordinaries index ending 14.1 lower at 14,36.6. (Reuters)

## STOCK MARKETS

### Big sellers put British Steel under renewed pressure



an early mark-up on talk that the Chancellor was poised to reduce interest rates by two percentage points before his Mansion House speech on Thursday. But the bank of England moved quickly to scotch the rumour and this, in turn, put the pound under renewed pressure.

Thus, combined with another gloomy economic survey from the CBI, saw share prices

ICL rising 7p to £10.73, Glaxo 10p to 50p, and SmithKline Beecham 8p to 51p.

Unilever, the Anglo-Dutch food and household products group, jumped 15p to £11.09 with UBS Phillips & Drew, the broker, believed to be a buyer.

Unilever was also bolstered by news of an 18 per cent jump in first quarter profits at its US rival Procter & Gamble. BAT Industries fell 17p to 87.5p,

at 504p. HSBC has been one of the best performing FTSE 100 index constituents in recent weeks and dealers believe it still has further scope for improvement.

Rank Organisation, the leisure group, was a nervous market losing 8p to 556p before a meeting with analysts on Friday. But close followers of the company do not expect any bad news to emerge. They say the company will benefit from the turn towards lower interest rates providing consumers with increased spending power. The pound's devaluation is also likely to benefit the group with fewer people taking holidays abroad which is likely to be good news for Rank's Warner and Butlin's holiday camps.

TI Group, the engineer, recovered from an early fall to finish 1p firmer at 308p on further consideration of the appointment to the main board of Tony Edwards. Mr Edwards was appointed managing director of Lucas only a few months ago but resigned on Monday following a boardroom bust-up. Lucas was 1p dearer at 108p and is still seen as vulnerable to a takeover. TI has been mentioned as a possible predator and this latest move will only serve to heighten speculation.

Blenheim, the exhibition organiser, responded news of its 12th consecutive year of profit growth with a rise of 13p to 533p. Pre-tax profits were 32 per cent higher at £37.3 million. The bulk of the improvement stemmed from information technology exhibitions but the group has now diversified into trade publishing which already accounts for 7 per cent of turnover.

MICHAEL CLARK

Kleinwort Benson, the broker, is urging clients to switch out of National Westminster and into Barclays. Kleinwort says Barclays enjoys the cheaper rating and is likely to hold its dividend despite contrary reports. The market did not concur, with NatWest 4p up at 383p and Barclays down 6p at 339p.

boil over and by mid-morning the FTSE 100 index was nursing a loss of more than 20 points. The pound recovered its poise later, enabling the equity market also to claw back some of the earlier losses. But, having been 16 points higher at one stage, helped by a firmer futures market, it eventually closed 8.2 up at 2,669.8.

The big dollar earners continued to make headway with both Carr Kitcat & Aitken and James Capel taking a bearish view of prospects.

Those companies with heavy involvement in Hong Kong enjoyed a much-needed relief, helped by an overnight recovery in the Hang Seng index.

The friction between the colony and China has been upsetting business sentiment,

but yesterday there were gains for Cable & Wireless, up 8p at 600p and HSBC, 19p better

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I USED TO SUFFER FROM FEAR OF FLYING,  
NOW I JUST SUFFER FROM FEAR OF FLYING  
WITH SOMEBODY ELSE

*Dr Scott Barrett, Assistant Professor of Economics London Business School.*



Airlines are just like anything else in the world of business: you don't know bad until you've had good. Last year thousands of our First and Executive Class passengers experienced 'wonderful' on Northwest Airlines' international flights.

'Wonderful' consists of a variety of things,

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you wait for your connecting flight to one of over 200 destinations across the US.

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## THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

FT-SE VOLUMES											
Abbey Nat	2,800	Carlton Com	991	Land Secs	660	Scot Hydro	1,500				
Alld-Lyons	659	Coats Viyella	513	Legal & Gm	818	Scot & New	43				
Anglian W	930	Cm Union	1,500	Lloyd's Blk	1,600	Scot Power	2,500				
Argyll Gp	1,800	Courtaulds	486	MB Cardn	2,400	Sears	6,600				
Arlo Wtg	3,000	Eng China	2,000	Markt Sp	4,200	Svrm Treni	442				
ATA	1,300	Enterp Oil	2,100	NatWest Bl	3,600	Slebe	1,400				
AT&T Inds	3,500	Fisons	691	Nat Power	4,200	Smkl Beh	2,600				
AVET	1,800	Fonte	3,400	Nih Wst W	205	Smith Nph	2,500				
BIOC	876	GRE	5,600	Nihm Gds	3,200	Smith (Wth) S21	521				
BOP	5,000	GUSA	478	P & O	540	Svrm Elec	1,800				
BTTR	5,300	Gen Acc	900	Pearson	723	Svn Allinc	1,600				
Cit of Scot	3,800	Glaxo	5,500	Prudential	2,700	TSB	695				
Clarcys	1,800	Granada	607	RTZ	1,800	Tate & Lyle	2,600				
Circle 1,700	Guinness	2,200	Rank Org	1,500	Reckitt Col	345	Thames W	1,800			
Coms	2,000	HSBC	12,000	Redland	2,200	Thurn EMI	1,700				
Concorde	475	Met 6,100	6,100	Reed Int'l	1,600	Tomkins	1,100				
Cont Recov	5,400	Micro	1,400	Rentokil	541	Unilever	1,300				
Corporan Inc	2,200	Mobile	1,200	Reuters	288	Umt Bls	1,500				
Crusader	61	Motor	1,000	Rolls Royce	3,700	Vodafone	2,100				
Cutter	91	Motor	96	Rohrbm	692	Wellcome	2,300				
Eastfield	55	Motor	100	Ry Blk Sct	4,100	Whitbread 'A'	423				
Edwards	511	Motor	513	Sainsbury	1,000	Wtms Hld	1,800				
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## THEATRE page 30

Susan Lynch may be "deliriously pretty" as Lulu, but the plays are impossible to stage

# ARTS

## TELEVISION page 31

D.H. Lawrence: was he a homosexual? Yes, according to last night's *Without Walls*



OPERA: Rodney Milnes, at a British premiere, calls for a co-ordinated national approach to new works

## Let's do the show right, right here

The presentation of new opera in Britain tends to be slightly hole-in-the-wall nowadays. Ruled by economic necessity in their huge theatres, the London companies have livened off much of their responsibility for new work to the ghettos of the Garden Venture and the Contemporary Opera Studio — worthy institutions both, but on the sidelines. New work is in danger of being no longer part of mainstream operatic life either in London or the even more financially pressed regions.

In which context the premiere of Nicola LeFanu's new opera, *Blood Wedding*, on Monday was an altogether remarkable event. There is nothing remotely hole-in-the-wall about it: it is a bold, ambitious undertaking, a gesture of defiance against any number of odds.

It was commissioned from LeFanu and her librettist Deborah Levy by the Women's Playhouse Trust, whose moving spirit, Jules Wright, also produced and directed. The run of nine performances is budgeted at £57,000, of which around ten per cent comes from such public bodies as the Arts Council, the London Arts Board, the Docklands Development Corporation and the European Arts Festival. The rest has been found through imaginative and determined fund-raising.

The Jacob Street Studios (071-497 9977), on Mill Street, just south of Tower Bridge, are a working film studio transformed into a passable 500-seat opera theatre, with acoustical advice from Ove Arup. Fotini Dimou's spacious set, beautifully lit by Jenny Cane, is impressively spectacular, and her costumes (devised in collaboration with Nicole Farhi) are elegant, chic even, but true to the root.

Nor is the Jacob Street run (until November 7) all: there will be performances in Russia and the Ukraine, and the possibility of tours to Australia, Brazil and Germany.

There is something either splendidly or — depending on one's mood — bloody-mindedly uncompromising about the whole enterprise. *Blood Wedding* does not run

eagerly to meet its audience, despite educational workshop projects attached to the premiere. All concerned assume some knowledge of Lorca's play, if not of Levy's libretto:

narrative values and representational action are skimped, and there was much pen-porch work and shuffling through the libretto supplied with the programme on the part of Monday's audience to try and find out who was who and where we were (the libretto's cast list



Judith Weir: her *Night at the Chinese Opera* was killed off with Kent Opera

is less helpful in this respect than standard translations of the play).

LeFanu does not set too much store by traditional norms of dramatic structure and pacing. There are moments of dangerous stasis in the two-hour, two-act span of the opera that her music doesn't quite carry; there is, after all, little overt action — bride deserts groom on wedding day to join married lover, groom slays lover. At 35 minutes the first scene of the second act (the wedding party) is simply too long, and the remaining half hour encompasses the dénouement at an

unvarying andante moderato that tries one's patience sorely.

The music will not terrify anyone

who can take Tippett with whom

LeFanu shares characteristically

angular setting of plain English

sentences. Her writing can be

chatty, and at a dramatic level it is

not always apparent why she

chooses certain effects, apart from

natural exuberance and volatility.

She is at her best in lyrical passages:

two duets for the Bride and the

Lover are the most satisfying

moments in the score, alongside some

especially expressive writing for

flute. There are technically adroit

mixings of onstage accordion and

simulated-onstage gramophone

records of popular music with the

pit band that raise problems similar

to Tippett's use of "Die liebe Farbe"

in *The Knot Garden* — the contrast

is too violent, the idioms too

disparate. Yet such effects are

welcome in a score where, too often,

not quite enough is happening.

Jules Wright's staging, the 17-

strong Endymion Ensemble under

Anne Manson, and the fiercely

committed cast of 15 deserve

nothing but praise: the premiere

had been prepared with single-

minded devotion to the cause.

Lynne Davies's hugely sympathetic

Bride was winningly sung. Quentin Hayes's Lover shuddered res-

pectfully, and the electrifying

Cynthia Buchanan took three small

parts to riveting effect (chain-

smoking while rocking a cradle

can't be right, though). The crucial

role of the Groom's Mother-dou-

bling-Death was forcefully presented

by Annemarie Sand, and

Nicholas Clapton's eerie, penetrat-

ing counter-tenor was suitably chilling as the Moon. The final image of the Bride isolated downstage

while eight women stood upstage,

lit from below as if at the edge of the

abyss, reminded one of the perfor-

mance's provenance.

At the end, while applauding the

sheer guts of the whole undertaking,

I was left wondering precisely

whom this uncompromising opera

was for — for the composer's and

director's peers, maybe, but surely

not for a non-operatic public or,

barely, the regular opera audience.



Bride and Groom (Lynne Davies and Philip Sheffield), in Nicola LeFanu's *Blood Wedding*, which is now at Jacob Street Studios

But that is the over-riding problem with so much contemporary opera — Richard Morrison's wise words on *Well* on this page yesterday should be required reading for all young composers — and it is a problem that won't go away while new works are marginalised.

There are mainstream new operas, but look what happens to them: English National Opera couldn't afford to revive Birthe's *Mask of Orpheus* despite an invitation to do so by the Vienna Festival; the same composer's *Gawain*, a great success at the Garden last

year, will have to wait until 1994

for its first revival — in an ideal

world it would be repeated now.

Outside London there are fits

and starts. Collaboration between

the Huddersfield Contemporary

Music Festival and Opera North

gave us Saxon's *Caritas*, but when

will we see it again? Collaboration

between the Banff Centre and

Cardiff has borne fruit in the shape

of Metcalfe's *Tormak* (no revival in sight) and Toovey's *Ubu* (no revival required, by all accounts). Kent

Opera nurtured Judith Weir, but

her *Night at the Chinese Opera*

was killed off along with the

company, and her *Vanishing Bridegroom* remains unrevised. It is all too fragmented.

One gazes enviously at Germany, where the Munich Biennale under firm artistic leadership (Henzel) and generously sponsored (BMW) is a powerhouse of new work, including British new work (Turnage, Param Vir). Should all the studios and ventures here be combined under one roof to generate similar activity? One even gazes enviously at the United States, where Weir has been taken up enthusiastically, where

composers such as Adams and Glass have struck an answering chord in a large audience, and where a mainstream company such as Lyric Opera of Chicago has made an eight-year commitment to contemporary American opera, starting later this week with Bolcom's *McTeague*.

There is product here, there is the will — as WPT has shown — but neither leadership nor administrative organisation. Until there is new opera will remain on the sidelines, with disastrous effects on the future of the art-form.

## Five million words may prove too many

HOW genuine is the much-quoted boom in the public appreciation of opera? That question is of more than passing interest to the publishers, Macmillan, as they prepare to launch *The New Grove Dictionary of Opera*. Expected retail at around £550, the four-volume monster (known affectionately as "Opera Grove" among the 800 musicologists to whom it has provided work in the last five years) will obviously not be an impulse purchase.

On the other hand, the Grove

industry has been very profitable

for Macmillan so far. It began

under the editorship of former

### ARTS BRIEFING

**Times** music critic Stanley Sadie, with the publication of the 20-volume *New Grove Dictionary of Music* ten years ago. Since then have come the multi-volumed *New Grove* dictionaries of musical instruments and of American music, as well as paperback spin-offs.

"Opera Grove" is described as "the first all-embracing reference work on opera": according to a Macmillan spokesman, "no other opera guide, from Kobb's *Complete Opera Book* to the *Concise Oxford Dictionary of Music*, can make such a claim." Among the five million words in "Opera Grove" will be 2,000 entries on operas, 2,500 on singers (including comparatively unestablished singers of today), and a staggering 2,000 entries on composers.

WE WONDERED in this column two weeks ago if the new Nobel prize-winner for literature would keep his date to read poetry at the

RADIO: Peter Barnard on the BBC's assumption of news supremacy; review by Derwent May

## Only corporations shall speak unto nations?

FOR an operation allegedly run by a geriatric and a lame duck, the BBC is proving no slouch at massaging the Radio 4 debate. Fitness was rarely so finessed. Already Broadcasting House has defined the argument to its own advantage, as witness the newspapers' full of letters from Distinguished of Dagenham and Disconnected of the Dordogne. The debate is about which of two frequents the 24-hour BBC news programme should use. This is the broadcasting equivalent of deciding between hanging and shooting.

The trial, were we allowed one, would concern the level of desire for such a network and the suitability of the BBC to be its single parent. The flimsy evidence, were we encouraged to examine it, would come from the round-the-clock Gulf war adventure on Radio 4, which is alleged to have been a tremendous success. Apparently Operation Desert Radio captured the nation in days not weeks, the opposition shot to ribbons by the

massed tanks of BH. We interrupt this propaganda to enter a caveat.

There is no empirical evidence that the BBC is the best conduit for a 24-hour news network. The experiment during the Gulf war only proved that even half the world is beating down the front door of a despot, there is very little real news. Retired General Sir Herbert Gutbuster wing with retired Admiral Sir Horatio Shipshape to guess what might be happening 4,000 miles away is not news coverage any more than Brian Johnston describing his latest cake is coverage of a Test match. It may be fun, but it's not cricket.

After decades of being told that Radio 3 knew what was good for the nation's musical health, we at last have Classic FM proving otherwise. It may not be to all tastes, but it has expanded perceptions and proposed fresh definitions as to what culture might be. News is as much a part of the culture as music do we want the BBC's news culture straddling the twin peaks of an ill-defined "balance" and John Birt's mission to explain, to be the exclusive, national, source of what news is?

The 200 metre band on long wave was not handed to the BBC by Marconi, let alone God. The corporation already has Radios 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5. It has shown little originality in its use of the opportunity offered by having Radio 4 on two wavelengths: why anticipate originality when two wavelengths become two networks?

Peter Brooke, the heritage secretary, should put a news network out to tender. That

would measure demand and show

whether the market thinks a news channel should be on FM or long wave.

It would open the way to the likes of LBC, the London talk station, whose 24-hour mix of news and chat has not convincingly proven that commercial viability

and instant access to breaking news can be combined. There is also ITN, whose Independent Radio News offshoot supplies most of the nation's commercial stations.

A BBC bid could well succeed, if the corporation can prove that its radio news flotilla is more than just a few glittering liners (*Today*, *The World Tonight*), plus a fleet of dinghies bobbing up every hour on the hour.

The detailed market research that

accompanies tendering would also be a way of measuring the real demand for 24-hour news.

If there is a real market for 24-

hour news, there will be a real

market to supply it. Tendering will

open the cosy world which the BBC dominates. Tendering will also nail the oft-repeated BBC claim that 96 per cent of people can get Radio 4 on FM. That is only true if 96 per cent of people put an FM aerial on their roofs.

Of course we must retain public service broadcasting and of course the BBC is its finest exponent. But news is not a sacred trust. There may be a case for an all-news network, but there is no case for handing it to the BBC as a right.

### "IT'S A GEM!"

Sunday Times

"Shows don't come much more enjoyable than this"

Derwent May

"CHARMING, AFFECTIONATE AND FUNNY"

Derwent May



# Geneva's prospects look good

European cinema has few truly international stars. David Robinson on a festival that aims to find some more

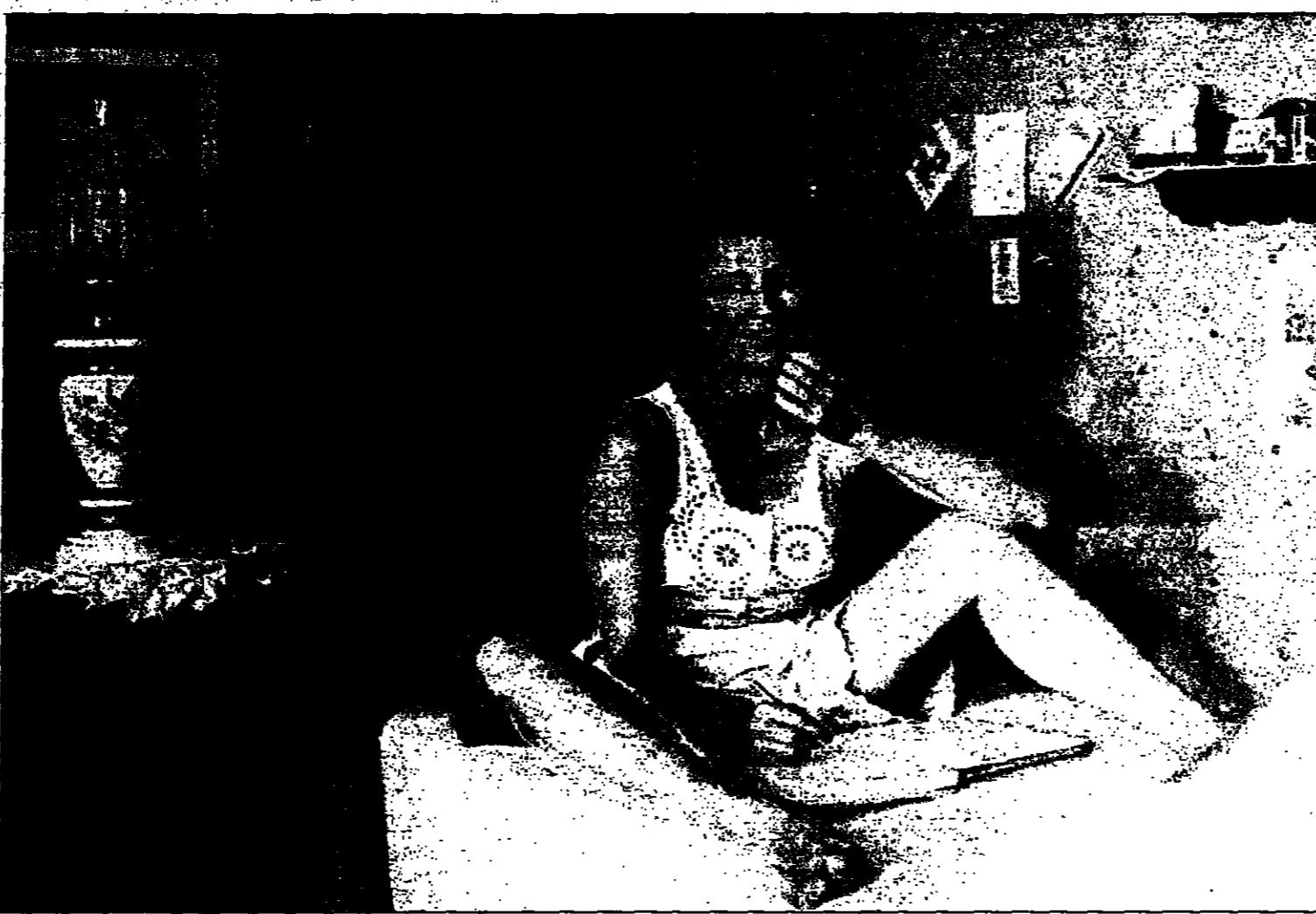
In pursuit of the great dream of a pan-European cinema that can challenge the Hollywood hegemony, the European Media Fund disburses huge sums of money every year. So far the main result has been an army of culmocrats, a plethora of mysterious agencies with portmanteau titles and a distinctly modest handful of films which, even if they occasionally win nomination for Best Foreign Language Oscar, do not begin to compete with the Americans in terms of international box office.

The root of the problem is the lack of European stars with international appeal. We have Gérard Depardieu, 69-year-old Marcello Mastroianni, Nastassja Kinski maybe, but precious few others. In a brave corrective effort, the Geneva Film Festival was set up five years ago with the deliberate aim of spotlighting European Stars of Tomorrow. This year for the first time its small budget was augmented by a grant from European funds.

The 15 or so "Espoirs" who come with their films to Geneva (personal appearances are a condition of the competition) look and behave refreshingly unlike conventional stars. Their ages range from 14 to 30, and denim, boots and shaggy ponytails are more or less *de rigueur*. By and large they show a genuine interest in each other's work, and no aggressive competitiveness in pursuit of the prizes — one for each sex, with an additional international Press award this year for the first time.

British actors have had regular success in Geneva. In 1988 Dexter Fletcher took the prize for Bob Hoskins' *The Raggedy Rainier*; in 1990 Ruth Sheen for Mike Leigh's *High Hopes*; and in 1991 Claire Skinner for Leigh's *Life is Sweet*. But none of these, it must be admitted, has so far become a household name in European films.

It is equally hard to predict a future for this year's British prize-winner Jaye Davidson, who plays the transsexual romantic interest in Neil Jordan's *The Crying Game*. This fragile youngster with his tiny, London-accented voice suits the eccentric, one-off role ideally, but is not



Exemplary performance: Karen-Lise Mynster in the title role of Liv Ullmann's atmospheric but undisciplined directorial debut, *Sofie*

likely to prove easy casting for anything else.

The feminine *Espoir*, the Romanian Mai Morgenstern, has temperament, fierce good looks and good English, so perhaps more chance of European stardom. At 30 the oldest competitor, her starring career was delayed by rampant anti-Semitism in the Ceausescu years. In *The Oak Tree*, an absurdist black comedy about that era, she plays a teacher whose non-conformist nature lands her at the sharp end of the Securitate.

Other Geneva hopefuls included Evgeni Mironov, a handsome 26-year-old, discovering both first love and national racism in a spirited, undisciplined Russian entry, *Love*, and Stefano Accorsi in the leading role of Pupi Avati's *Brothers and Sisters*. Rather coolly received at the Venice Festival and rejected by the London Festival, this is a dense, attractive and formally original treatment of a broken Italian family

retreating to the unfamiliar environment of the American Midwest.

The one undoubted new European star on show in Geneva was not an actor at all, however, but an English director who has chosen to work in Sweden. Colin Nutley began his career in English television, followed his wife to her native Sweden and has since made his career there.

His achievement has been to revive the long-disregarded genre of rural comedy, applying a mortifying visual wit and a merciless eye for petty-bourgeois pretension and hypocrisy. His first feature, *The Ninth Company*, was about a group of soldiers who divert military equipment into profitable private enterprise; his second, *Black Jack*, was about a dance band. *House of Angels* — which will be seen at the London Film Festival — describes the murderous disruption of a stuffy village when

a sexy young city woman inherits the local manor. Nutley is one of the rare film-makers who suggest fruitful directions for European cinema.

Swedish cinema was specially featured in Geneva, showing the extent to which Ingmar Bergman continues to exert his influence, even though he has himself apparently given up directing. This year has seen two of his autobiographical scripts made by other directors: Bille August's pedantic *The Best Intentions* related the Bergman parents' early married life, and the birth of Ingmar.

Now Ingmar's son, Daniel Bergman, has made *Sunday's Children*, which picks up little Ingmar at the age of eight, observing and suffering the strains of his parents' marriage. From time to time the film flashes forward to describe confrontations between the 50-year-old Bergman and his dying father. The fascination is to observe the 74-year-old Bergman revising his

views on the family that has dominated his personal and artistic mythology. Now the austere father, previously depicted as a minor sadist, is seen in a more kindly light, while the mother takes on a less sanctity character.

Daniel Bergman is a promising director. Already traits of the adult Bergman are evident in this anxious little boy — to the dramatic diarrhoea which figures so comically large in the autobiographical writings of Sweden's greatest film-maker.

Another Bergman disciple, the actress Liv Ullmann, makes her directorial debut with *Sofie*, based on a long chronicle novel about a Jewish family in Copenhagen at the turn of the century. The atmosphere is finely caught and the performances of Erlend Josephson and Karen-Lise Mynster are exemplary, leaving a frustrating sense that there is a seriously good film hidden somewhere within an undisciplined and never-ending sprawl.

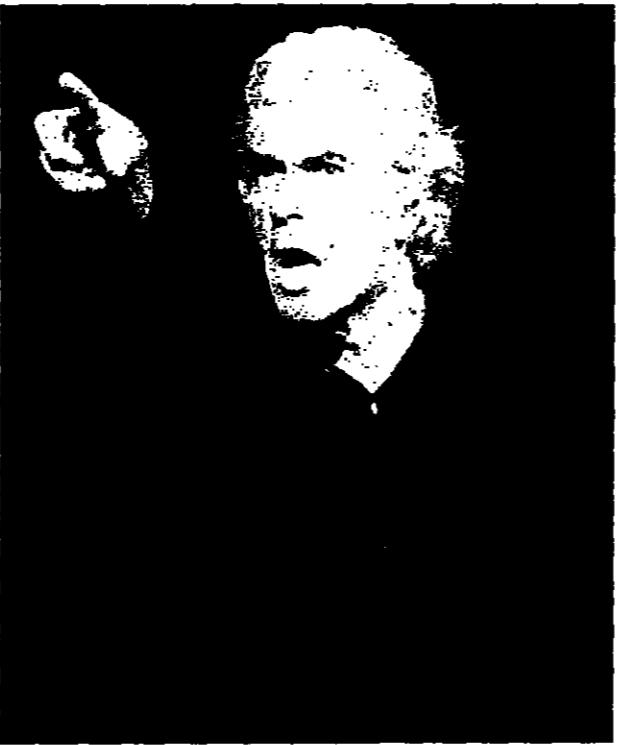
**THEATRE:** Peter Lewis on a chance to see an Italian classic staged by one of Europe's greatest directors

Giorgio Strehler, director of the Piccolo theatre of Milan, has been one of the dominating figures of European theatre for over 40 years. But apart from one brief but unforgettable visit with his company to a London West End Theatre season in 1967, he is known in Britain only as a name. So there is bound to be some curiosity about the Goldoni production that he brings to the National Theatre tomorrow as part of a European tour.

Over the years Strehler has given a new immediacy to Goldoni's plays, which had ossified in the traditions of *commedia dell'arte*. But he has also ranged widely over European drama and opera. Bertolt Brecht himself commended his production of *The Threepenny Opera* in 1956. His Shakespeare productions are famous, which makes it all the more frustrating that we have never seen them.

Now 71, tall, silver-haired and with a born actor-managers instinctive dominance, Strehler responds energetically to an audience even of one. "Do I still have new ideas? Too many! I feel far younger than my real age." For the past four years he has devoted his energies to staging piecemeal, Goethe's *Faust* — "Faust Fragments" he calls them — and returned to the stage to take the title role. His current project is to play his hero,

## A master in any language



Giorgio Strehler: "Do I still have ideas? Too many!"

Chioggia, the fishing port at the southern tip of the lagoon. In an explanatory note to the play, Goldoni writes: "The term 'baruffa' means confusion, a scuffle, a group of men and women shouting at each other and hitting each other. Such scuffles tend to be more common in Chioggia than anywhere else." An acceptable translation of the title might therefore be "The Squabbles of Chioggia" but the text itself

remains impenetrable to outsiders.

It is better to follow the play like a spoken opera, which is how it is performed, with arias, duets, quartets and choruses of taunting, indignation, entreaty, fury and reconciliation. It is also like ballet. In Strehler productions the smallest movements in the most complex groupings have been finely calculated.

Strehler's preference is for strong back-lighting, against which the silhouette of an actor's body is more telling than his facial expression.

"Nobody in Chioggia has ever laughed at this play," says Strehler. "They took offence, even in Goldoni's time." But Goldoni knew his subjects. As a young law student in 1728, he had been given the job of assistant to the examining magistrate in Chioggia, sorting out the quarrels.

"Knowing their customs, dialect, vivacity and malice, I knew how to portray them," he wrote in his memoirs. In doing so he won one part of the earliest plays of working-class realism. There is just one part of higher social status — his own role as magistrate's right-hand man.

Strehler's passion for Goldoni began when he was 15 and dropped in on impulse to

watch an itinerant Venetian company which was visiting Milan. The effect was like a conversion. "I had never thought about the theatre", he says. "I went to the movies. But this was more real and more beautiful to me, even though they were probably not very good actors." Later he himself joined such a company, and after the war became Milan's leading theatre critic, and the world became his舞台.

"But in Milan our most performed playwright is not Goldoni but Shakespeare. I have done 12 Shakespeare plays compared with eight Goldoni. In England you have a big problem — Shakespeare is English! After centuries it is hard for you to find a new way of doing him. It is no accident that Shakespeare was born among the most theatrical people in the world. English actors are the best in the world."

Would it have helped his work if he had been born English too? Strehler considers this with an intrigued smile. "I believe my work has in a small way changed things in the theatre. If I were an Englishman," he continues, "breaking into English to say it: 'I would now be — Sir George'." The thought does not displease him.

Giorgio Strehler is at the Lyceum (071-928 2252), tomorrow, Friday, 7pm; Saturday, Monday, 2pm and 7pm.

## DANCE Something to crow about

John Percival talks to choreographer Christopher Bruce, whose new work, *Rooster*, has its British premiere tonight

By any reckoning, Christopher Bruce is one of the best British choreographers working today. So why is his production of *Rooster* for London Contemporary Dance Theatre (opening in Leeds tonight) the only work of his we shall see all year, with the exception of *Swansong*, which had audiences cheering when given at the Coliseum by both English National Ballet and the Berlin Ballet?

Two years ago he ended his contract as resident choreographer with English National Ballet because "I was hanging on by my toenails thinking I was an indulgence they couldn't afford. With financial pressures, a triple bill would come up occasionally and you'd get your work on, but there wasn't time to rehearse properly."

He has increasingly accepted the many invitations he gets from abroad; lately he has worked mostly with the Houston Ballet in Texas and at the Grand Theatre, Geneva, where "the facilities are, on the whole, much better than in this country: the stages, the qualities of the dancers, the types of dancer, and the budgets."

*Rooster*, created last year in Geneva, is his first work for London Contemporary, although he made *Holiday Sketches* to Billie Holiday recordings, for their school about ten years ago.

Over recent years he has concentrated on making contemporary work for classically-based dancers, something he finds

lacking in the big companies here, so that "a terrible rigor mortis is setting in because there's not enough work being made that is of our time — I guess because they don't think they can sell it, which actually is a bit of a myth if the work is good."

The invitation from LCDT was not a complete surprise, because he and the company's director, Robert Cohan, had discussed such a possibility for years. Bruce chose *Rooster* for LCDT because "it was about the only one of the recent works I'd done where I thought it would suit the company and there would be the right number of people, and it would fit onto the

times a kind of a dark humour, but I've made what is for me a light work out of them."

What would tempt Bruce back to work more in Britain? He insists that "I don't need huge budgets. But I have to know that I'll be able to do artistically what I need to do."

"There's a lot of talent and a lot of energy being dissipated. We've got a little bit departmentalised a wide range of contemporary dance, and the classical on the other extreme, but nothing in between. I think it's an area an audience would be drawn to."

● London Contemporary Dance Theatre is at the Grand Theatre, Leeds (0532-453511) from tonight until Saturday

ANTHONY CRICKMAY



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Serious issues, dark humour, and great songs by the Rolling Stones: LCDT in Christopher Bruce's *Rooster*

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**TELEVISION REVIEW**

**Out on the road**

Culture moves at break-neck speeds these days. Only a few months ago, "outing" — blowing the whistle on alleged homosexuals — was a serious matter, the subject of court cases and the ruin of incantous style magazines. The ethics of outing were discussed everywhere. Yet this contentious publicity stunt already appears to have gone through the cultural mill, and emerged again as a quaint parlour game for the chattering classes: the latest wheeze is to out the dead and buried.

Last night's *Dark Horses*, part of Channel 4's *Without Walls* series, tried to drag D.H. Lawrence out of the closet and into the clean air of sexual honesty. The "high priest of love", as the film called him, is only the latest victim of television's outing. Michelangelo has already been given the Channel 4 treatment, and Donne is due to get his fairly shortly. And for Joyce... well, what do you

expect with a name like that?

The shame was that it revealed so little, which is a poor reflection on any exposé. Lawrence's homo-eroticism should be news to nobody. His love of the male form is a literary commonplace, and it spills over into barely suppressed lust on many occasions, notably in *Women in Love*. As Quentin Crisp pointed out memorably last night: "You can't help noticing it never mentions you-know-what."

In the subtler moments of the film, "gay" writers discussed the complexity of Lawrence's beliefs in "blood brotherhood" as "the clue to a new epoch," and the troubled nature of male friendship in an age overshadowed by the trial of Oscar Wilde. Speaking

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Thousands of warring couples are forced to live together because they cannot sell their homes. Rachel Kelly reports

**T**hey are known as "caged couples" by estate agents: those forced to live together after their relationship has ended because they cannot sell their home.

Nobody knows how many people are suffering in this way but agents estimate, from the number of divorces alone, that there could be tens of thousands. Each year 160,000 couples divorce. In addition, thousands of unmarried couples who had been living together separate when their partnership sours.

The numbers are likely to increase as the divorce rate rises with the recession. In its annual review, published earlier this month, Relate, formerly the National Marriage Guidance Council, said that more marriages were failing because of the recession. A record number of 70,000 couples sought help last year for the first time after problems with their marriages, compared with 45,000 five years ago.

Unemployment, redundancy and mounting debts had had a "devastating impact" on family life. With the approach of Christmas, known as the divorce season, the number of break-ups increases.

Not all those divorcing or splitting up will be forced to co-habit. Sometimes the couple are renting. (A third of households do.) Even if the couple own the house, one partner may move out and rent or stay with friends until the house is sold. Sometimes, the house will not need to be sold, but people seldom want to build a new relationship in the same property.

Many more people, however, will not be able to afford the luxury of keeping their home, nor can they afford to move out. They must remain trapped in houses they own until the house is sold.

What was once their castle has become their prison. They are the forgotten victims of the housing market slump. "It is happening up and down the country," Harry Hill, managing director of Hamptons Countywide, one of the country's biggest estate agents, says. "Thousands of people are affected."

In a boom, the house is sold in a matter of months. The emotional torture of living with a former partner is short-lived. But concomitantly the problems that such couples now face when they try to sell.

**Numbers are likely to increase as the divorce rate rises with the recession**

For some, it is not an option. They will be trapped in houses where the mortgage is now higher than the value of the house, and unless they can meet the shortfall, any plans of moving will be scuttled. John Wrigglesworth, housing analyst with UBS Phillips & Drew, a leading firm of City stockbrokers, has estimated that there could be more than a million such homeowners with what is called negative equity, and every month that prices drop, thousands more are tipped into the trap.

It could take years for such couples to be set free because analysts expect no recovery in the housing market for the next 18 months, and even then prices could take years to reach 1980s levels.

Many couples are young people who bought to beat the deadline set in 1988 by Nigel Lawson, then Chancellor of the Exchequer, for the abolition of double mortgage interest. Often, the relationships were fragile from the start. Such caged couples are overwhelmingly in the South East, with perhaps even less chance than others of escaping.

The rash of conversions in Victorian and Edwardian terraces during the property boom led to a plethora of studio flats to cater for demand from first-time buyers.

Now demand for such property, often converted on the cheap, has drifted away as a new generation of potential first-time buyers shuns the pig farm down the road. In a fragile market, the mere mention of a divorce might be enough to put off a buyer, who may fear that one

does enter the housing market, analysts believe that it is likely to use its increased earnings to skip a rung of the ladder and buy a small house rather than a poor conversion.

Some reluctant sharers may not have negative equity, but they are ensnared in the housing market log jam. Analysts estimate that at present half of all sales are falling through.

The fact of a failed relationship will do little to help their sales pitch. The three Ds (divorce, debt and death) are said to be an agent's best friend, but in a slump, even the smallest difficulty can kill a sale.

Mr Hill says that in a recession the smallest impediment can become a mountain. "You need everything on your side in a soft market." He comments. "Often, only one partner wishes to sell. We find that most often it is the woman who is the woman who does not want to sell because she wants to preserve the family home for her children."

If you sell a house for £100,000, for example, you get substantially less than a house half the size for your half share of the proceeds, and few wives relish the prospect of such reduced circumstances.

Sometimes the warring parties who jointly own a home will appoint different estate agents. Disgruntled wives have been known to ruin a sale by reference to the pig farm down the road. In a fragile market, the mere mention of a divorce might be enough to put off a buyer, who may fear that one

party will pull out. There is little to relieve their plight. Sarah Bowler, a marriage guidance counsellor with Relate, suggests that it is possible to negotiate about sharing living space if the house or flat is small, or splitting it up more permanently if space allows to soothe the aggravation of living together.

Agents report cases of houses with chalk lines on the kitchen floor dividing the space and rotas pinned up in the bathroom. "This is not new," Ms Bowler says. "People in the past have split up their homes or divided a flat into two bedsits. However, it has got worse with the recession. People feel that they are victims." She advises seeing a counsellor, but admits that little can be done to improve or end such a situation.

For Maureen Becque, the strain of staying with her former husband eventually proved too much. She lived for more than two years with Edward, her ex-husband, in the Plough & Harrow public house in Kent. They bought the pub on the edge of the village of Tilmanstone in 1987 and built it into a thriving local.

The marriage floundered, however, and two years ago they divorced. They decided to live together while they tried to sell the pub. Neither was prepared to relinquish it. Their home was their livelihood. The strain was palpable,

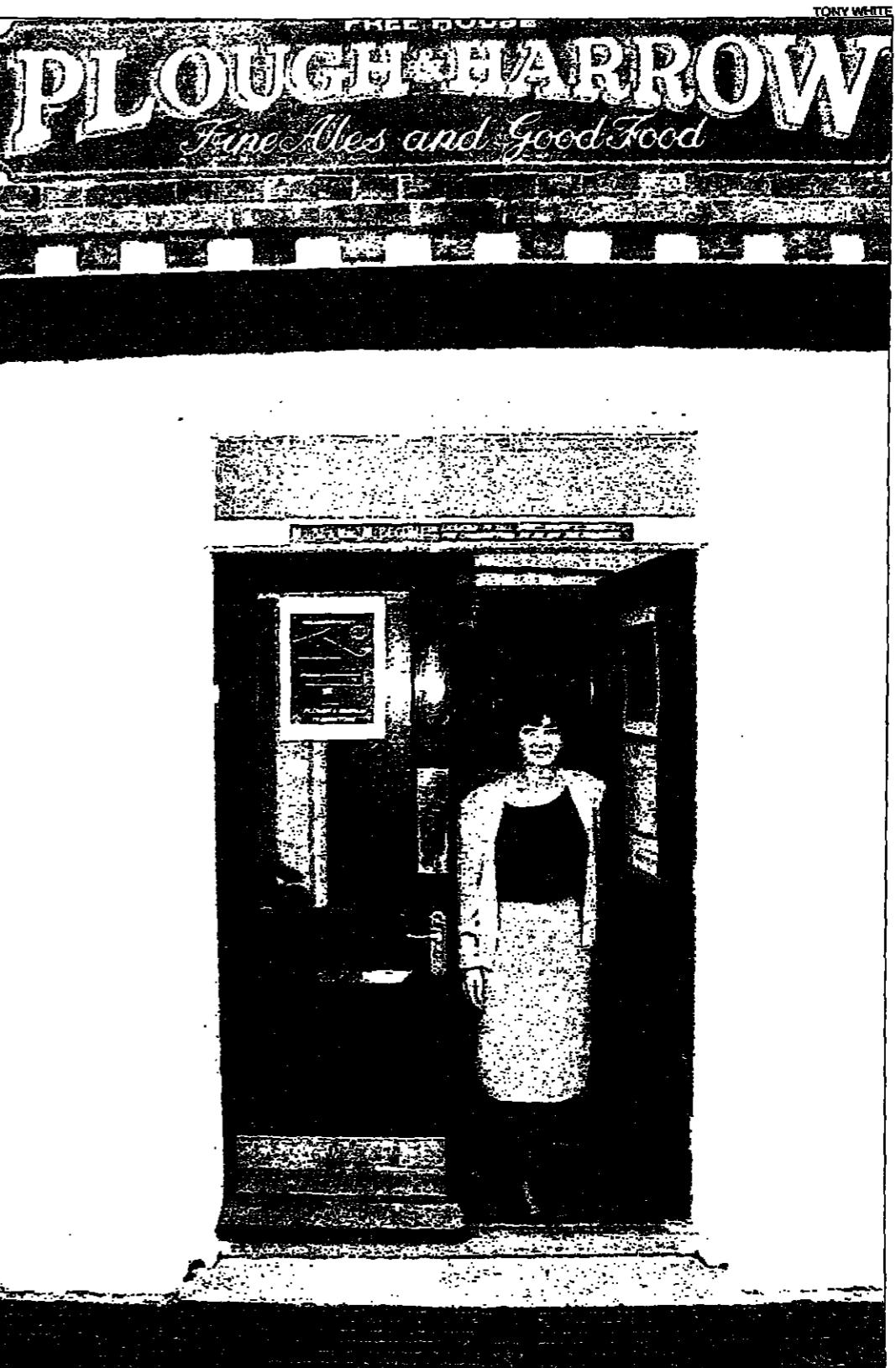
but they managed to muddle on. Mr Becque slept in the studio flat they once shared, and Mrs Becque lived in a guest room. However, the £320,000 pub did not sell.

Eventually the strain proved too much and the relationship soured further, and recently Mr Becque moved out. "It's a great relief that he has gone," Mrs Becque says.

"There was nowhere I could retreat to. I just had to disappear into my own room and close the door. But he had to pass my door to get to his. It was impossible to start a new relationship."

Her first step on getting the flat all to herself was to scrub it from top to toe to erase any signs of the past.

For thousands of others still forced to share, that moment still eludes them.



Alone at last: Maureen Becque's husband has now moved out of their pub in Tilmanstone, Kent

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THE TIMES WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 28 1992

RACING 37

## British contingent recovering from Atlantic flight ordeal

FROM RICHARD EVANS, RACING CORRESPONDENT, IN MIAMI

AS TEMPERATURES here soared into the high Eighties, Britain's contingent of Breeders' Cup horses were recovering yesterday from an horrific Atlantic ordeal, which came close to ruining their chances at Gulfstream Park on Saturday.

The DC8 from Stansted transporting 18 horses, worth an estimated £20 million, was three hours from landing at Fort Lauderdale when it suddenly completed the equivalent of an aviation bungy jump.

The aircraft fell like a stone for an estimated 500 feet after hitting an air pocket, before bouncing back just as quickly.

"Everybody hit the root, the horses included," Nick Vaughan, a John Gosden lad, said.

The filler at the rear of the aircraft, including Marling and Culture Vulture, suffered the worst. Red Slippers, who runs in a valuable handicap on Sunday, had a head wound stabled after landing.

"It was enough to put you off flying for life. It happened so quickly but seemed to go on for a lifetime. It is the closest I have been to thinking my

number was up," Vaughan added.

"We were very lucky and so are the horses. They got away with scrapes and scratches, but nothing too severe. If it had gone on any longer, it would have been very serious."

Several of the horses went down as the plane fell, before suddenly coming back up again.

Ian Willows, head travelling lad with Luca Cumani, added: "The whole thing was a nightmare. It was my worse experience in 25 years of flying with horses."

"Blackie" Blackwell, from Geoff Wragg's yard, commented: "The horses went up and down two or three times. They were nearly on the floor. It was really bad."

After it, happened there was dust everywhere. Although they escaped serious injury, the effect on the horses' mental state is hardly the ideal preparation for racing's \$10 million world championships.

With the Sunshine State living up its name, Britain's strongest-ever Breeders' Cup team must now get used to scorching heat under a cloudless sky.

However, Lukas is the first

The palm trees encircling the tight, oval Gulfstream Park track stood motionless as the temperature climbed by breakfast time.

The quarantine barns where foreign horses are stabled are partially protected by long-needed pine trees. Inside, electric fans provide extra relief — when they work.

A minor panic developed in the French barns as fans blowing cool air over Araazi, Subotica and the rest of France's squad, packed up.

The task facing European runners was summed up in his own inimitable way by D Wayne Lukas:

The American trainer has enjoyed ten Breeders' Cup successes and is set to become the first trainer to be top money-winner for ten consecutive years.

He reflected: "This is the biggest challenge from Europe so far, but it is not a numbers game. It is very tough on you guys. You've got the flight, the travelling, the heat and the sharp turns here — but that's what makes the French horses."

Araazi remains front page news here despite his much-publicised defeat last May in the Kentucky Derby.

to admit that the Europeans are learning. "I think you are getting better at it, knowing what it takes. And, don't forget, you have never seen \$10 million on a table in one afternoon. That alone is enough to clear the issues."

The French horses, who arrived a day earlier than the British contingent, cleared quarantine yesterday, which allows Araazi and others to have a canter round the chocolate-brown dirt track.

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While neither Yeltsin, who



Lucas' tough mission facing the Europeans

is admitted that the Europeans are learning. "I think you are getting better at it, knowing what it takes. And, don't forget, you have never seen \$10 million on a table in one afternoon. That alone is enough to clear the issues."

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While neither Yeltsin, who

had shown promise first time out in the race won by Beggarman Thief at Yarmouth, nor Araazi have run since, the form of the Newcastle race has been boosted by the runner-up.

He won impressively at York before finishing a highly

credible second in the group

three Horris Hill Stakes at Newbury last Thursday.

Of the others who have run, Bay Queen has the best form, finishing fourth behind Lyford Cay at York.

While conceding that Dancing

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Villa aim to stretch unbeaten sequence

## Ferguson frustrated with United's lack of firepower

By LOUISE TAYLOR

SCORING only 14 goals in 13 matches is not the stuff of cups or championships and Alex Ferguson, the Manchester United manager, is well aware of his club's principal shortcoming.

Before taking his side to Villa Park for a Coca-Cola third round tie against Aston Villa tonight, Ferguson conceded he was concerned. "Not scoring is very frustrating and worrying," he said. "We badly need to start getting the breaks in the penalty area."

Ferguson was in Oslo on Sunday to look at Tore Andre Dahlum, the £600,000-rated Rosenberg striker, in the Norwegian cup final. He scored in the win over Lillestrom but Ferguson was not convinced.

"It is easy to bring these players in but it is more difficult to be sure that they would do well at a club like Manchester United," he said.

Ron Atkinson, the Villa manager, has a point to prove. He was dismissed by United, apparently for failing to win a championship — an achievement that has also eluded Ferguson. "This is one of the big matches of the season," Atkinson, whose side is unbeaten in nine matches, said.

Another man with a score to settle is Paul McGrath, the Villa central defender, who was sold by Ferguson after the United manager called in a priest in an attempt to control McGrath's alleged drink problem.

Ferguson's recently published book on life at Old Trafford devotes a fair amount of space to McGrath, who is

said to be contemplating legal action.

In an attempt to defuse the situation yesterday, Ferguson said: "In 18 years as a manager, I have never criticised a player in public before but my book set out to describe six years of management at Old Trafford and, unavoidably, had to deal with several controversial issues. Paul McGrath was one of them."

"I have the highest regard for McGrath, who has since admitted that leaving United was the right thing for him as well as the club."

"I have never had any doubts. For my money, David is the best goalkeeper in the country."

Tony Adams and Steve Bould, my centre backs, have also been playing well recently," Graham said. "That old Arsenal meanness is slowly coming back. Sometimes you have to forsake skill."

Kevin Keegan's Newcastle United face possibly their stiffest test of the season at Chelsea, where they must bounce back from their 1-0 home defeat by Grimsby on Saturday.

George Graham, the Arsenal manager, said: "One of the biggest problems when you bring in a lot of new players is waiting for them to gel. Derby have found it takes a while."

"We're expecting a great game. It is an intimidating atmosphere at the Baseball Ground and it should be an excellent cup tie."

Arsenal were indebted to David Seaman, their goal-

keeper, for saving three penalties when a shoot-out at Millwall decided their second round tie. With Derby having put seven goals past Southend United in the second round, not to mention four against Charlton Athletic in the league last Saturday, Seaman might need to be at his best tonight.

Not that Graham has any qualms about his last line of defence. "Seaman has been back to his best lately," he said. "He kept us in the game in the last round and has kept a level head about losing his England place and all the criticism he has faced."

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## Smart apology at Cambridge

By OUR SPORTS STAFF

REG Smart, the Cambridge United chairman, yesterday apologised to other league clubs for the excessive gamesmanship allegedly practised by John Beck and his assistant, Gary Peters, who were dismissed by Smart last week.

"We are very concerned at allegations about deliberately trying to upset people before matches at the Abbey Stadium," Smart said. "My feeling about reading and hearing what is claimed to have gone on is one of shock and disbelief."

Graham Scarff, a former Cambridge coach who was dismissed at the end of last season, said: "The treatment given to visitors was terrible. It was psychological warfare." Scarff claimed such tactics

included putting pounds of sugar in opponents' tea, cutting off the electricity supply to the away dressing-room and giving them soggy deflated balls to practice with."

Smart said: "Neither myself nor my directors had any idea things like this were happening. We were always looked on as a friendly club and we are doing all we can do now to make sure we are among the most hospitable clubs in the country again."

Beck, dismissed five days after declaring his intention of managing a big club, yesterday said: "This has all been blown up out of proportion. It is like everything concerning Cambridge United during our success."

"People would rather listen to the hype than look at the facts."

Beck would point to hisfeat in lifting Cambridge from the old fourth division to the brink of the Premier League in successive seasons as speaking for itself.

■ Mexico City: César Menotti, Mexico's football coach, has resigned after 14 months in the job. The Argentinian said his decision reflected neither personal nor financial problems but rather confusion about who is running the Mexican federation. "It's not clear to me who the president is," he said. (Reuters)

■ Crystal Palace have opened transfer talks with Leyton Orient over Paul Heald, the goalkeeper, who is valued at £450,000.

### BOXING

## Schwer will need home advantage

By SRIKUMAR SEN  
BOXING CORRESPONDENT

A CLASSIC encounter could be in store when Carl Crook, of Chorley in Manchester, a stylist, defends his British and Commonwealth lightweight titles against Billy Schwer, of Luton, a puncher, at the Albert Hall tonight.

Schwer has ground advantage thanks to his promoter, Mickey Duff, who outbid his rival, Barry Hearn, for the right to stage the bout. The boxer, too, has done his bit to make sure over maximum support. He has sold £40,000 worth of tickets — two-thirds of the capacity. "He is the most popular fighter after Frank Bruno," Duff said.

Schwer will need all the help he can get. Crook, 28, has five years' more experience. The champion, who has had 12 more bouts than Schwer, has been beaten only once in 29 contests. Crook and Schwer have only one opponent in common: Patrick Kamy. Crook outpointed Kamy, but Schwer, who has won all but three of his bouts inside the distance, knocked him out in one round.

Perhaps that is why Duff believes his man will win inside the distance. "I didn't think he could win. I wouldn't have made the match," Duff said.

On the undercard, Lloyd Honeyghan continues his career as a light-middleweight. He meets the Welsh champion, Curtis Colarusso. Honeyghan should know too much for the Welshman.

### MOTOR RACING

## Outcast Brundle has stomach for a fight

By NORMAN HOWELL

MARTIN Brundle must be wondering what he has to do to prove himself as one of the best drivers in Formula One.

His third place at the Japanese grand prix on Sunday was the tenth time in the last 11 races that he has scored points in the world championship. Yet since the middle of this season, Brundle has been cast aside by the Ford Benetton team and then rejected as a possible 1993 driver by the two British teams which dominate Formula One, Williams and McLaren.

"I have to say that I have not enjoyed one single minute of my professional life in the last month," Brundle said after Sunday's race at Suzuka.

Brundle, who was world sports car champion with Jaguar in 1988, came back to Formula One at the instigation of Tom Walkinshaw.

Although Italian-owned, the Benetton team had very strong links with this country.

Ford, the team's suppliers, called on Walkinshaw, a Scottish entrepreneur who had been the driving force behind Jaguar's success in sports cars, to sort out the Formula One team.

Walkinshaw convinced Flavio Briatore, then Benetton's boss, to hire Brundle. But the Englishman's start to this season was not good, and he raced and lived in the shadow of Michael Schumacher, his young and gifted team mate.

The German out-qualified Brundle, often by a very big margin, but eventually the English driver began to race to

his ability. The points started coming in and all seemed set for a long association with Benetton.

Then the negotiations over the driving futures of Mansell, Prost and Senna began. One result was that there was no room at Williams for Riccardo Patrese, an Italian who has always had loyal friends in Formula One's high places. Briatore was asked to find a seat for Patrese at Benetton, and Brundle lost out.

Brundle had just finished second at Monza, a career-best result, when he found himself looking for a drive. "I guess I should have developed my relationship with Flavio a bit earlier. But it was Tom who brought me back into Formula One."

But things developed differently and the Italian now has the upper hand at Benetton. Even holding the majority stake of TWR, Walkinshaw's racing organisation.

Nevertheless, Briatore has been trying to help Brundle. After Mansell retired, he attempted to swap Patrese for Brundle. Now he is trying to get him into the Minardi team. "It's nice of him, but I still think I deserve a drive with either McLaren or Williams. I am still waiting."

On Sunday, he raced inspite of having been in bed for 24 hours with a stomach upset.

"At six on Saturday evening, I felt awful, couldn't contemplate racing. I then woke up at 4am and felt worse. But what could I do? I had to go out and race my heart out and hope that somebody would notice."



Warm welcome: Nelson Mandela shakes hands with Mohammad Azharuddin, the India cricket captain, in Johannesburg yesterday

## India and South Africa redefine bouncers

FROM RICHARD STREETON  
IN JOHANNESBURG

IN ADDITION to using a third umpire and television replays to help with close decisions, South Africa and India agreed yesterday to amend the International Cricket Council's experimental rule dealing with bouncers.

During the forthcoming Test and internationals, bowlers will still be limited to one fast, short-pitched ball an over per batsman. A bouncer will be defined, though, as a ball that passes above the batsman's head, rather than his shoulder. A second such ball in the over will be sig-

nalled as a wide, instead of as a no-ball.

When it was pointed out at a press conference that batsmen could be stumped or out hit-wicket from a wide, Dr Ali Bachar, the managing director of the United Cricket Board of South Africa, said the amendment could be reviewed when it was seen how it worked.

South Africa has taken the unusual decision that only its five-strong Test panel will umpire the Indian tour fixtures. Dr Bachar said it would give them the opportunity to gain experience and to establish a rapport with the touring side. One of the five is Wilfred Diederichs, a Cape Coloured

who used to officiate for the non-white body before South African cricket was unified.

Predictably, the controversial World Cup rule used in Australia to decide targets in rain-affected one-day games has been ditched. Amended targets for the team bating second will now be based on their opponents' "highest scoring consecutive overs," rather than by discarding the lowest scoring ones.

Though still not perfect, this should help to eradicate teams being left to make ridiculous targets. Had it operated in the England-South Africa semi-final at Sydney, South Africa would have been left to score

five runs less than their ball, rather than 21 when the players returned after rain.

Nelson Mandela, the president of the African National Congress, gave an afternoon reception for the Indians yesterday and played a few mock strokes with an autographed bat he was presented with.

Invited by Dr Bachar to the second Test match here to support South Africa, Mandela brought a laugh with his enigmatic reply: "I am very patriotic, but India is my second home."

After his release in 1990 from 27 years in prison, India was the first overseas country Mandela visited.

### SQUASH

## Lambs to call for action over league's time-penalty rule

By COLIN MCQUILLAN

LAMBS Club are likely to call for a change in the timekeeping rules of the Pimm's Premier League after losing a crucial point to WF Village Manchester this week when their fourth string, Paul Gregory, arrived 45 minutes late after being stuck in traffic jams on the M1.

"We are not caring about the lost point," Tony Fletcher, the Lambs' team manager, said. Fletcher's side beat the Village Prestwich club 3-1 with wins by Chris Walker, Simon Parke and Bryan Beeson.

"This is the third time we have been affected by this inflexible rule and, for the sake of the game, the league, the sponsors and the spectators, we must press for a change."

Gregory, the 1991 British champion, was badly delayed

on his way to Manchester from his home in south London by traffic jams which had been caused by an accident on the M1.

Gregory rang ahead to say he would be late and arrived 45 minutes after the starting time. The first strings had been similarly affected, with Mark Maclean driving for eight hours before appearing on the M1.

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## BBC1

6.00 *Ceefax* (49848)  
 6.30 *BBC Breakfast News* begins with *Business Breakfast* until 6.55 when Nicholas Witchell and Jim Dando present news and topical reports with regular business, sport, weather, regional news and travel bulletins (27825857).  
 9.05 *Kids' News*. *Ceefax* (s) 2.00 Chats a studio discussion on a topical subject (8722550) 9.30 *Reas King*. Game show. The guests are Ted and Kate Robbie (s) (622272).  
 10.00 *News*, regional news and weather (4090175) 10.05 *Playdays*. For the very young (s) (7184925).  
 10.30 *Good Morning*... with Anne and Nick. Magazine series presented by Anne Diamond and Nick Owen. This week's edition includes Leslie Noyes posing around a viewer's home, Barbara Cartland with a love story, consumer affairs and Claire Rayner's agony aunt phone-in (s). With *News* (Ceefax) and weather at 11.00 and 12.00 (7752798).  
 12.15 *Peacock Mill*. Bill Spiers' guests are broadcaster and journalist Michael Parkinson and Colin Dexter, the creator of Inspector Morse (s) (50047) 12.35 *Regional News and Weather* (36303565).  
 1.00 *One O'Clock News* with Hayley (Ceefax) Weather (71374) 1.30 *Neighbours*. *Ceefax* (s) (8708063) 2.20 *House of Cards*. Legal drama series. A ten year old missing persons case is reopened after the discovery of the remains of a man and a woman. Starring Jack Lord (5443312).  
 3.10 *Primetime*. The first of a new magazine series presented by Roy Castle and Maggie Philbin. Includes Lord Lichfield launching a photography competition (s) (7614683) 3.40 *Lifeline*. Jonathan Dimbleby with an appeal on behalf of the Council for the Protection of Rural England (s) (2374041).  
 3.50 *Dooley Dooley's Euro Tour* (s) (4705747) 3.55 *Radio Roo*. Episode five of a 13-part comedy drama (s) (6380374) 4.10 *Potsworth & Co* (s) (1756595) 4.35 *What's That Noise?* The Tracy brothers listen to London's musical sounds (7014091).  
 5.00 *Newround* (8059461) 5.05 *Grange Hill*. Drama serial set in a northern school (s) (4182577).  
 5.35 *Neighbours* (s) (803480). Northern Ireland: *Inside Ulster*.  
 6.00 *Six O'Clock News* with Anna Ford and Andrew Harvey. *Ceefax* Weather (515).  
 6.30 *Regional News Magazines* (867). Northern Ireland: *Neighbours* 7.00 *Edensor*. *Ceefax* (s) (6226).  


Earthbound: Stableford, Bellingham, Hann, Pryce (7.30pm)

7.30 *Tomorrow's World: A Space Year Special* presented by Judith Hann, Howard Stableford, Kate Bellingham and Carmen Pryce. A look at some of the practical achievements that space technology has made possible. *Ceefax* (s) (751).  
 8.00 *Trainer*. Drama serial set in the horse racing world, starring David McCallum, Susannah York, Mark Greenstreet and Patrick Ryecart. *Ceefax* (s) (813157).  
 8.50 *Points of View* presented by Anne Robinson (s) (740521).  
 8.55 A Party Political Broadcast on behalf of the Liberal Democrats (190062).  
 9.00 *Nine O'Clock News* with Michael Buerk. *Ceefax* Regional news weather (4374).  
 9.30 *Pole to Pole*. On the second leg of his journey from the North to the South Poles Michael Palin has 12 days in which to travel from St Petersburg to the Black Sea port of Odessa. *Ceefax* (237119).  
 10.20 *Sportsnight* introduced by Bob Wilson. Boxing: Bolton's Carl Crook fights his British and Commonwealth lightweight titles against Luton's Billy Schwer at the Albert Hall; Racing: Julian Wilson profiles the South African rider Michael Roberts; Football: the goals and talking points from the week's Premier League matches (3013549).  
 11.50 *Weather* (289461). Ends at 11.55.  
 2.15 *BBC Select: Executive Business Club Preview: Managing Money* (52165). Ends at 2.45. 4.00 *TV Edits*. Ends at 4.50

## VARIATIONS

7.00 *Conquest of the Planet of the Apes* (1049021) 7.20 *Blockbusters* 2.20 *Video View* 3.20 *Fit's Forbidden To Know* 5.00 *Shorts* 5.30 *Joblinder* (280180)  
**ANGLIA**  
 As London except: 2.15-2.45 *Gardening* (140739) 6.25-7.00 *Anglia News* (673041) 10.45 *Anglia Sport* Special (676954) 12.30 *Regional Hollywood Report*  
**BORDER**  
 As London except: 2.15-3.10 The Nature of Things (140739) 6.25-7.00 *Home and Away* (140739) 8.00-8.30 *London Weather* (7184925) 10.45 *Granada Soccer Night* (2508517) 12.25 *Tanner* (88) 2.15 *Donshan* (210768) 2.20 *Video View* (2462556) 4.45 *Pick of the Week* (2462556) 5.00 *Fit's Forbidden To Know* (77352) 5.30 *Joblinder* (280180).  
**CENTRAL**  
 As London except: 1.15 *A Country Practice* (131119) 4.45 *Home and Away* (140739) 2.15-2.45 *Gardening* (140739) 3.20-3.50 *Granada Soccer Night* (2508517) 4.00 *TV News* (673041) 6.25-7.00 *Central News* (673041) 10.45 *Central Sports Special* (673041) 12.25 *Fit's Forbidden To Know* (77352) 5.00 *Shorts* 5.30 *Joblinder* (280180).  
**HTV WEST**  
 As London except: 1.45 *The Young Ones* (140739) 2.15-2.45 *Gardening* (140739) 3.20-3.50 *A Country Practice* (140739) 6.25-7.00 *Granada Soccer Night* (2508517) 12.25 *Tanner* (88) 2.15 *Donshan* (210768) 2.20 *Video View* (2462556) 4.45 *Pick of the Week* (2462556) 5.00 *Fit's Forbidden To Know* (77352) 5.30 *Joblinder* (280180).  
**GRAMPIAN**  
 As London except: 2.40-3.10 *Rosan* on the Road 5.10-6.40 *Home and Away* (500 North)

7.00 *Earthbound*: Stableford, Bellingham, Hann, Pryce (7.30pm)

7.30 *Tomorrow's World: A Space Year Special* presented by Judith Hann, Howard Stableford, Kate Bellingham and Carmen Pryce. A look at some of the practical achievements that space technology has made possible. *Ceefax* (s) (751).  
 8.00 *Trainer*. Drama serial set in the horse racing world, starring David McCallum, Susannah York, Mark Greenstreet and Patrick Ryecart. *Ceefax* (s) (813157).  
 8.50 *Points of View* presented by Anne Robinson (s) (740521).  
 8.55 A Party Political Broadcast on behalf of the Liberal Democrats (190062).  
 9.00 *Nine O'Clock News* with Michael Buerk. *Ceefax* Regional news weather (4374).  
 9.30 *Pole to Pole*. On the second leg of his journey from the North to the South Poles Michael Palin has 12 days in which to travel from St Petersburg to the Black Sea port of Odessa. *Ceefax* (237119).  
 10.20 *Sportsnight* introduced by Bob Wilson. Boxing: Bolton's Carl Crook fights his British and Commonwealth lightweight titles against Luton's Billy Schwer at the Albert Hall; Racing: Julian Wilson profiles the South African rider Michael Roberts; Football: the goals and talking points from the week's Premier League matches (3013549).  
 11.50 *Weather* (289461). Ends at 11.55.  
 2.15 *BBC Select: Executive Business Club Preview: Managing Money* (52165). Ends at 2.45. 4.00 *TV Edits*. Ends at 4.50

7.00 *Conquest of the Planet of the Apes* (1049021) 7.20 *Fit's Forbidden To Know* (409021) 8.00-8.30 *Joblinder* (280180)  
**GRANADA**  
 As London except: 2.15-2.45 *Gardening* (140739) 6.25-7.00 *Anglia News* (673041) 10.45 *Anglia Sport* Special (676954) 12.30 *Regional Hollywood Report*  
**YORKSHIRE**  
 As London except: 1.15 *A Country Practice* (126119) 1.45 *Home and Away* (118190) 2.15-2.45 *The Best of British* (140739) 3.20-3.50 *Granada Soccer Night* (2508517) 4.00 *TV News* (673041) 6.25-7.00 *Blockbusters* (88) 10.45-12.30 *Midwest Sport* (7622193)  
**TYNE TEES**  
 As London except: 5.10-5.40 *Home and Away* (1417819) 6.00 *TV News* (673041) 6.30-7.00 *Blockbusters* (88) 10.45-12.30 *Midwest Sport* (7622193)  
**ULSTER**  
 As London except: 5.10-5.40 *Home and Away* (1417819) 6.00 *TV News* (673041) 6.30-7.00 *Blockbusters* (88) 10.45-12.30 *Midwest Sport* (7622193)  
**HTV WEST**  
 As London except: 1.45 *The Young Ones* (140739) 2.15-2.45 *Gardening* (140739) 3.20-3.50 *A Country Practice* (140739) 6.25-7.00 *Granada Soccer Night* (2508517) 12.25 *Tanner* (88) 2.15 *Donshan* (210768) 2.20 *Video View* (2462556) 4.45 *Pick of the Week* (2462556) 5.00 *Fit's Forbidden To Know* (77352) 5.30 *Joblinder* (280180).  
**TSW**  
 As London except: 6.00-6.30 *Wales* at 5.10-5.40 *Top Sport* at 5.10-5.40 *Wales* at 5.30-5.60 *Top Sport* at 5.60-6.00 *Fit's Forbidden To Know* (77352) 5.30 *Joblinder* (280180).  
**HTV WALES**  
 As London except: 6.00pm-6.30pm *Wales* at 5.10-5.40 *Top Sport* at 5.10-5.40 *Wales* at 5.30-5.60 *Fit's Forbidden To Know* (77352) 5.30 *Joblinder* (280180).  
**SKY NEWS**  
 As London except: 6.00 *Midweek* (s) 9.00 *News* 9.05 *Midweek* (s) 10.00 *TV News* (s) 10.30 *TV News* (s) 11.00 *TV News* (s) 11.30 *TV News* (s) 12.00 *TV News* (s) 12.30 *TV News* (s) 13.00 *TV News* (s) 13.30 *TV News* (s) 14.00 *TV News* (s) 14.30 *TV News* (s) 15.00 *TV News* (s) 15.30 *TV News* (s) 16.00 *TV News* (s) 16.30 *TV News* (s) 17.00 *TV News* (s) 17.30 *TV News* (s) 18.00 *TV News* (s) 18.30 *TV News* (s) 19.00 *TV News* (s) 19.30 *TV News* (s) 20.00 *TV News* (s) 20.30 *TV News* (s) 21.00 *TV News* (s) 21.30 *TV News* (s) 22.00 *TV News* (s) 22.30 *TV News* (s) 23.00 *TV News* (s) 23.30 *TV News* (s) 24.00 *TV News* (s) 24.30 *TV News* (s) 25.00 *TV News* (s) 25.30 *TV News* (s) 26.00 *TV News* (s) 26.30 *TV News* (s) 27.00 *TV News* (s) 27.30 *TV News* (s) 28.00 *TV News* (s) 28.30 *TV News* (s) 29.00 *TV News* (s) 29.30 *TV News* (s) 30.00 *TV News* (s) 30.30 *TV News* (s) 31.00 *TV News* (s) 31.30 *TV News* (s) 32.00 *TV News* (s) 32.30 *TV News* (s) 33.00 *TV News* (s) 33.30 *TV News* (s) 34.00 *TV News* (s) 34.30 *TV News* (s) 35.00 *TV News* (s) 35.30 *TV News* (s) 36.00 *TV News* (s) 36.30 *TV News* (s) 37.00 *TV News* (s) 37.30 *TV News* (s) 38.00 *TV News* (s) 38.30 *TV News* (s) 39.00 *TV News* (s) 39.30 *TV News* (s) 40.00 *TV News* (s) 40.30 *TV News* (s) 41.00 *TV News* (s) 41.30 *TV News* (s) 42.00 *TV News* (s) 42.30 *TV News* (s) 43.00 *TV News* (s) 43.30 *TV News* (s) 44.00 *TV News* (s) 44.30 *TV News* (s) 45.00 *TV News* (s) 45.30 *TV News* (s) 46.00 *TV News* (s) 46.30 *TV News* (s) 47.00 *TV News* (s) 47.30 *TV News* (s) 48.00 *TV News* (s) 48.30 *TV News* (s) 49.00 *TV News* (s) 49.30 *TV News* (s) 50.00 *TV News* (s) 50.30 *TV News* (s) 51.00 *TV News* (s) 51.30 *TV News* (s) 52.00 *TV News* (s) 52.30 *TV News* (s) 53.00 *TV News* (s) 53.30 *TV News* (s) 54.00 *TV News* (s) 54.30 *TV News* (s) 55.00 *TV News* (s) 55.30 *TV News* (s) 56.00 *TV News* (s) 56.30 *TV News* (s) 57.00 *TV News* (s) 57.30 *TV News* (s) 58.00 *TV News* (s) 58.30 *TV News* (s) 59.00 *TV News* (s) 59.30 *TV News* (s) 60.00 *TV News* (s) 60.30 *TV News* (s) 61.00 *TV News* (s) 61.30 *TV News* (s) 62.00 *TV News* (s) 62.30 *TV News* (s) 63.00 *TV News* (s) 63.30 *TV News* (s) 64.00 *TV News* (s) 64.30 *TV News* (s) 65.00 *TV News* (s) 65.30 *TV News* (s) 66.00 *TV News* (s) 66.30 *TV News* (s) 67.00 *TV News* (s) 67.30 *TV News* (s) 68.00 *TV News* (s) 68.30 *TV News* (s) 69.00 *TV News* (s) 69.30 *TV News* (s) 70.00 *TV News* (s) 70.30 *TV News* (s) 71.00 *TV News* (s) 71.30 *TV News* (s) 72.00 *TV News* (s) 72.30 *TV News* (s) 73.00 *TV News* (s) 73.30 *TV News* (s) 74.00 *TV News* (s) 74.30 *TV News* (s) 75.00 *TV News* (s) 75.30 *TV News* (s) 76.00 *TV News* (s) 76.30 *TV News* (s) 77.00 *TV News* (s) 77.30 *TV News* (s) 78.00 *TV News* (s) 78.30 *TV News* (s) 79.00 *TV News* (s) 79.30 *TV News* (s) 80.00 *TV News* (s) 80.30 *TV News* (s) 81.00 *TV News* (s) 81.30 *TV News* (s) 82.00 *TV News* (s) 82.30 *TV News* (s) 83.00 *TV News* (s) 83.30 *TV News* (s) 84.00 *TV News* (s) 84.30 *TV News* (s) 85.00 *TV News* (s) 85.30 *TV News* (s) 86.00 *TV News* (s) 86.30 *TV News* (s) 87.00 *TV News* (s) 87.30 *TV News* (s) 88.00 *TV News* (s) 88.30 *TV News* (s) 89.00 *TV News* (s) 89.30 *TV News* (s) 90.00 *TV News* (s) 90.30 *TV News* (s) 91.00 *TV News* (s) 91.30 *TV News* (s) 92.00 *TV News* (s) 92.30 *TV News* (s) 93.00 *TV News* (s) 93.30 *TV News* (s) 94.00 *TV News* (s) 94.30 *TV News* (s) 95.00 *TV News* (s) 95.30 *TV News* (s) 96.00 *TV News* (s) 96.30 *TV News* (s) 97.00 *TV News* (s) 97.30 *TV News* (s) 98.00 *TV News* (s) 98.30 *TV News* (s) 99.00 *TV News* (s) 99.30 *TV News* (s) 100.00 *TV News* (s) 100.30 *TV News* (s) 101.00 *TV News* (s) 101.30 *TV News* (s) 102.00 *TV News</i*

## Wood optimistic threats to tour can be overcome

BY DAVID HANDS  
RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

DUDLEY Wood, the secretary of the Rugby Football Union (RFU), was last night optimistic that the first South African rugby tour to England for 23 years would go ahead. The tour has been put in jeopardy by the decision of the South African National Olympic Sports Congress (Nosc), supported by the African National Congress (ANC), to withdraw support for rugby tours to and from South Africa.

After a day of discussions, Wood said: "I think there is movement in the right direction on the part of the ANC. I am hoping for a further state-

ment tomorrow. I am pleased to say there is a degree of goodwill, certainly towards us, on the part of all parties."

"But we are pawns in this game. We are going to be stuck with one situation or another, and we will have to live with whatever happens."

Wood said there had been discussions with the police concerning security at all four grounds — Leicester, Bristol, Leeds and Twickenham — to be used during the English section of the tour. He admitted security at Twickenham, where South Africa play England on November 14, had been tightened.

The tour had appeared under increasing threat when

two city councils declared that they were considering cancelling matches against the Springboks. Leeds council, which administers Elland Road, where the North play the tourists on November 10, announced yesterday that it had written to Danie Craven, the South African Rugby Football Union (Sarfu) president, asking for a commitment to desegregate rugby and to meet Nosc to "ensure all previous agreements on desegregating rugby are implemented".

The council said it had been told by the ANC that a positive response from Craven would "go a long way to ensuring that the tour of England would enjoy the ANC's un-

qualified support". Leicester council said it was examining the terms of its lease of the Welford Road ground, where the Midlands provide the first opposition next Wednesday, and suggested that the Leicester club called off the match.

Local groups of the Anti-apartheid Movement in Bristol, Leeds, Leicester and London have voted to organise protest "if required".

Muleki George, the Nosc president, reiterated his stance on withdrawing support for rugby tours, accusing Sarfu officials of failing to develop the sport among black people. Nosc had said also that it would no longer back the

1995 Rugby World Cup, due to be staged in South Africa.

"They have made promises in the past and they have failed to honour all those promises," George said yesterday. "Once the problems are solved, we can talk sense. The South African RFU has failed to implement the development programme that it promised at the beginning of the year... rugby is dying in all black areas."

George said Nosc would not give back its support to the tour if Sarfu agreed to meet its demands. "We did that in the past. We are not going to be convinced by any promises now," he said. However, he believed the World Cup could

still go ahead. "It is up to Sarfu. If it solves its problems and gets its act together, the World Cup could be saved."

Danie Craven, the RFU president, feared that rugby would continue to be the most abused sporting pawn in South African politics. He questioned the decision to allow India's cricketers into South Africa for a full-scale tour, saying: "That is not on. Stop all sports if you feel that strongly. They know rugby is the most powerful weapon because it is the national sport. They will hold the World Cup to ransom too."

The South African rugby players and management in Tours preparing for the final

match in France before arriving in England, were last night trying to keep their minds on the game today with a French Students XV. James Small, the wing, said: "What really saddens me is that people back home still treat us as a symbol of white South Africa. We are not the team of the whites. We are a team of all South Africans, black, white or pink."

Jacky Abrahams, the assistant tour manager, said he was determined to see the tour through but would not say whether he thought it would run its full course.

David Miller, page 14  
Australian wiz, page 36

MCC asks  
members  
to rethink  
on Gower

MCC members intent on calling for a cosy extraordinary general meeting to discuss a motion of no confidence in the England committee were yesterday asked by the club to reconsider their views. Ivo Temmam writes. More than 200 names were collected after David Gower and Jack Russell had been left out of the winter tour party.

The signatures have agreed to talk to Dennis Silk, president of MCC, before attempting to press further for the special meeting. Silk is prepared to write to the Test and County Cricket Board, outlining the members' grievances.

But some of these people are zealots," Dennis Oliver, organiser of the petition, said.

"The chances of the president containing them are remote. We want the president to read us his prepared letter before we meet him. There is no way I am going to back down."

Gower is undeterred by having been told by MCC that the cost of hiring a hall and notifying the membership would be around £15,000. "Money does not matter, otherwise the signatures would not have signed," he said.

"This will be money well spent if it means the committee does not do exactly as it likes. MCC has plenty of money. I have not heard anyone other than MCC put forward the argument that it will be wasted. This is members' money," Oliver said.

Gower's OBE, page 18



Big match build-up: Glenn Lazarus, right, the Brisbane forward known as "The Brick", with his captain, Langer, yesterday at Wigan, where the Australians play the English rugby league champions on Friday

Confident Broncos can  
give Wigan a rough ride

BY CHRISTOPHER IRVINE

AFTER the rugby league World Cup comes the World Club Challenge, and with it a possible Australian double in less than a week.

The Brisbane Broncos bucked traditional minimalist thinking during the Australian season which ended recently, winning the Wimfield Cup competition at a canter. Wigan are wary of a stampede at Central Park on Friday.

Six days after the 10-6 defeat of Great Britain by Australia, seven of Wigan's eight-strong Wembley contingent — Lydon, with an ankle injury, is an almost certain absentee — will be reacquainted with a half-dozen Broncos.

Celebrations notwithstanding, all six Australians pronounced themselves fit yesterday when visiting the home of the English champions.

In the case of Wayne Bennett, the Broncos coach, appearances are deceiving. Lurking behind his poker face is one of the most cultured and visionary coaching brains.

Brisbane entered the Sydney-dominated competition only four years ago, yet they

are already being touted as one of its finest exponents. In last month's Wimfield Cup grand final, they slayed Sydney St George 28-3.

In a game in which defensive intensity predominates, Bennett has restored the values of flair and adventure.

With an all-international back line, including the indomitable Langer at scrum half, Renouf, the scorer of the decisive try in the World Cup final in the centre, and the pace of Hancock and Carne on the wings, the combination is a match.

"We don't kick it up all day," Langer, the Brisbane captain, said yesterday.

"Wayne loves us to attack, and that can be from anywhere on the park. After our success, maybe more sides back home will look to get away from the grinding style."

That's not to say that Brisbane are not tough. Saturday's grueling match at Wembley left its mark, Langer coming away from that game with a chest injury severely aggravated, casting a degree of doubt over whether or not he would

be able to play on Friday.

"Allan's chest is bruised and sore," Bennett said, "but he's keen to play and has trained all right, so there shouldn't be a problem."

Unusually for a match between the English and Australian champion sides, Wigan are the ones more likely to opt for a policy of safety first and a gradual build-up.

Bennett will prefer what his side does best: "shoveling it out quickly and running hard and fast."

The sides are expected to name their lineouts today.

Wigan, at present third in the English third division, have fitness problems with Hampson, the full back who has a groin strain, and Phil Clarke.

Three previous World Club Challenge matches, won by Wigan in 1987 and 1991 and by Widnes in 1989, have been devalued by being staged just days after the conclusion of a grueling Australian season. Brisbane's challenge, coming five weeks after their triumph in Sydney, is by far the toughest.

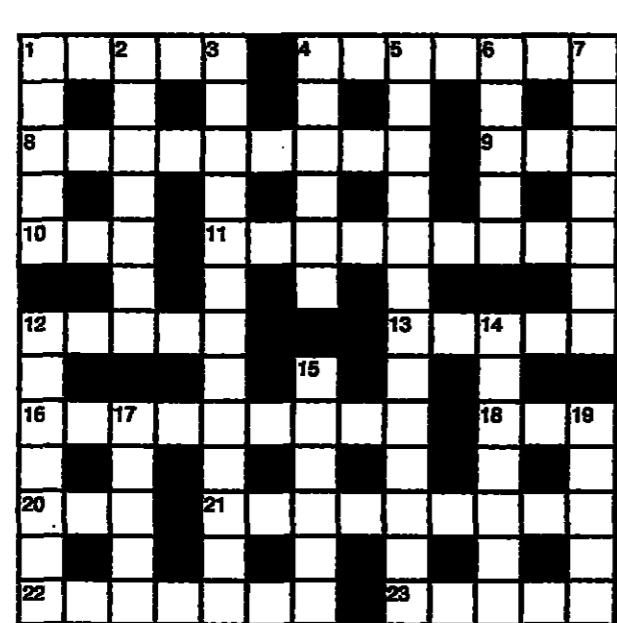
AFTER DRINKING  
A BOTTLE OF  
THE SINGLETION,  
THE JUDGES  
WERE SINGING  
ITS PRAISES.

The Singleton owes its richer, fuller character to the unique way it is matured; first in oak casks, then in the finest of sherry casks. Wonderfully smooth! A velvety, nutty character! A unique taste and delicate aroma! These were just some of the comments the judges of the Pot Still of Glasgow Trophy made about it.

But then, The Singleton has long been favoured by the more discerning malt drinker.



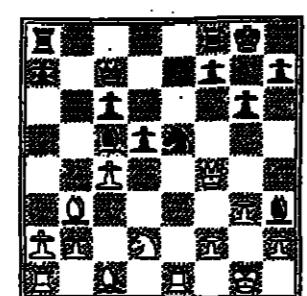
## CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 2930



**ACROSS**  
1 Skewered dish (5)  
4 Apply for (7)  
8 Irritation (9)  
9 Worthless goods (3)  
10 Entire group (3)  
11 Work out (9)  
12 New basis (5)  
13 Decoy (5)  
14 Decoy (4-5)  
15 Male sheep (3)  
16 Cassie drink (3)  
21 Water/land creature (9)  
22 Somewhere else (4-3)  
23 Koen (5)  
  
**SOLUTIONS TO NO 2929**  
ACROSS: 1 Rip off, 5 Resent, 8 Stud, 9 Recharge, 10 Crooks, 12 Ech, 15 Coldblooded, 16 Zero, 17 Assist, 19 Trembled, 21 Cage, 22 Scones, 23 Robust.  
DOWN: 2 Interpose, 3 Odd, 4 Fire sale, 5 Rock, 6 Shameless, 7 Nag, 11 Odd job man, 13 Call signs, 14 Colander, 18 Alas, 20 Rac, 21 Cob.

## WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene, Chess Correspondent



This position is a possible variation from Oraevsky-Bubnov, Correspondence 1926. White's queen-side pieces are in hibernation and his king-side has been seriously compromised — classic ingredients for a winning combination. Black to play. Solution below.

## Champion must meet London victor

JOSÉ Suleiman, the president of the World Boxing Council (WBC), gave a warning yesterday to Evander Holyfield, the world heavyweight champion, and Riddick Bowe, who meet on November 13 in Las Vegas (Srikumar Sen writes).

If the winner of the bout defended against anyone other than the winner of the final eliminator between Lennox Lewis, of Britain, and Dono-

van "Razor" Ruddock, of Canada, in London on Saturday, the WBC would declare the winner of the Lewis-Ruddock bout the world champion.

Suleiman said: "Holyfield and Bowe must start negotiations within 30 days of their fight or lose WBC recognition."

He issued the warning following attempts by Mickey Duff, the London promoter, to secure a bout for Frank Bruno with Holyfield before Lewis or Ruddock won.

Lou Duva, gave an assurance on behalf of Holyfield's manager, Dan Duva, that the world champion would defend against Lewis or Ruddock first. "Definitely, Hol-

field will fight the winner," Lou Duva said.

■ Derek Angel is to get a rematch with Akim Tafer after losing a European cruiserweight title bout against the Frenchman last week.

■ Kari Thompson, of Manchester, has been ordered to defend his British title against Johnny Nelson, the former British and European cruiserweight champion.

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